

JPRS 75727

19 May 1980

Latin America Report

No. 2149

FBIS

FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

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No. 2149

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TRAVEL BY COSTA RICAN TEACHERS TO NICARAGUA HAMPERED

Teachers Will Be Sent

San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 8 Mar 80 p 4A

[Text] The government will definitely send a group to Nicaragua to take part in the literacy campaign in that country. The group--the size of which has not yet been determined--will include university students as well as retired teachers and professors who are presently not teaching.

They are all volunteers. To date, 120 recruits have offered to participate in the Nicaraguan literacy campaign, Assistant Minister of Education Marvin Herrera said yesterday.

The official said that advisor Juan de Dios Blanco Arguedas will go to that country Monday to decide the exact date the group will travel and to settle some other details such as where the participants will be placed. In any case, the volunteers will leave within the next few days.

The trip and the Costa Ricans' stay in that country will be paid for entirely by the EEC, an international organization that agreed to finance participation by a group of no fewer than 100 persons and no more than 200.

In numbers, the Costa Rican group is in second place among the groups of foreigners going to Nicaragua to participate in the literacy campaign. The largest group is the 1200 Cubans who have been in that country for 2 months. Last week 50 youths arrived sent by the government of Spain.

Modification

Students will be included in the group our country will send, according to Mr. Herrera. That will be a slight change from the original offer made by the Costa Rican Government, which always said that the group would be composed of retired teachers.

The change may be due to the fact that the Nicaraguan authorities expressed a preference for teachers or young professors over retired teachers, as they told the Costa Rican Government last February. They specifically advised that they would prefer that the teachers going to that country to help with the campaign be young, not retired.

This was announced by the Nicaraguan representatives, and the EEC then agreed to provide the necessary funds for the volunteer Costa Rican delegation. Procurement of funds to cover the volunteers' board and travel expenses was the main obstacle to making the Costa Rican offer a reality.

Nicaragua justified its lack of interest in aid by retirees by saying that the group will be assigned to distant rural areas where they will have to face various environmental and social difficulties.

Costa Rican authorities then warned (LA NACION 11 February 1980 p 10A) that Nicaragua's wish would be very hard to satisfy, as the government was not inclined to sacrifice national schools and students to meet the needs of another nation. "We cannot send young teachers there and appoint retired teachers here, because it is against the law," said Fernando Castro, advisor to the Ministry of Public Education.

Nevertheless, our country's offer changed. In addition to retirees, teachers and professors not presently teaching and university students will go.

Offer

On 4 August 1979, the Costa Rican Government offered to send Nicaragua up to 2000 retired teachers, "if the United States pays their wages." It was later reported that the offer was made to partly offset Cuba's growing influence in the Nicaraguan Government.

Cuba initially sent 554 teachers to that country, with orders from Fidel Castro to "play a cultural and revolutionary role." To date, distributed in various parts of Nicaragua, there are no fewer than 1200 Cuban teachers living in Nicaraguan homes. According to Octavio Rivas, who was reached by telephone in his office in Nicaragua, the Cubans are assigned to the most distant parts of the country, and "we expect that the Costa Ricans will work similarly."

EEC Aid Not Forthcoming

San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 3 Apr 80 p 2

[Text] Indecision over financing for the work and living expenses of Costa Rican teachers in Nicaragua by the EEC is preventing that group from joining the literacy campaign begun in that country.

The Ministry of Public Education, which is coordinating the recruitment of teachers and discussing the conditions with Nicaraguan authorities, made it clear in recent meetings that the economic aspect is delaying the Costa Rican teacher's trip.

Minister of Education Maria Eugenia Dengo cabled the Brussels headquarters of the EEC to clarify the matter, but has not received an answer.

The organization has offered economic assistance for the project.

Information from officials at the Ministry of Public Education indicates that the European organization offered financing for lodging, payment of the salaries the teachers would earn and other aspects such as transportation and equipment.

However it was indicated that this body's delay in resolving the matter of providing funds is preventing any action by Costa Rica, and therefore sending the teachers "will be difficult."

The government has promised to send 100 teachers for the 5 months of the campaign, according to Juan de Dios Blanco, who recently traveled to that country to coordinate the arrangements and requirements.

He indicated that those teachers must be paid for lodging, transportation and equipment for a total of 2.7 million colones.

In addition the teachers will have to travel with a life insurance policy, representing an additional 28,000 colones which the government is unable to pay because the Ministry cannot include it in its budget, since "we do not have even enough to pay teachers here," according to one official.

Therefore, Blanco stated that he believes it will be "very difficult" for the human resources promised by the Costa Rican Government to be used in the literacy campaign begun in Nicaragua last month.

8587

CSO: 3010

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

NICARAGUAN DELEGATION IN CUBA--Havana (AIN)--Fernando Vecino Alegret, member of the party Central Committee and minister of higher education, yesterday received a delegation headed by Maj Omar Cabezas Lacayo, delegate for higher education of the Nicaraguan Sandinist National Liberation Front and a member of its national secretariat. The meeting, which lasted all morning, was a work session in which both parties exchanged impressions concerning the work of higher education in their respective countries. Vecino Alegret gave a historical resume of the three Cuban universities during the capitalist period, when with few exceptions only the children of well-off families attended classes. Major Cabezas Lacayo and his fellow Nicaraguans asked questions and expressed opinions about the information received, all of which was done in an atmosphere of great friendliness, as is proper between governments and peoples with common interests. [Text] [Havana GRANMA in Spanish 18 Mar 80 p 3] 8735

CSO: 3010

CENTRAL BANK REPORTS ON COUNTRY'S FINANCES

FLO81405 Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 3 May 80 p 1

[Article by Athena Damianos]

[Text] The country's internal debt grew by \$36.8 million to \$201.3 million during 1979, the Central Bank of the Bahamas revealed in its quarterly review. [The] government raised the debt mainly through the issuing of \$35.2 million in securities, \$20 million of which were taken by the National Insurance Board. The Bahamas Development Bank invested approximately \$1 million in these government securities.

The Central Bank reported that a budgetary deficit of \$9.8 million was experienced between October and December.

This occurred when expenditure of \$66.3 million combined with a new lending of \$1.4 million exceeded revenue of \$59.5 million.

It forced government to borrow \$7 million from the Central Bank to help meet its short-term commitments, the review said.

Of the total debt repayment of \$7.4 million, \$4.5 million represented domestic debt repayment and the remaining \$2.9 million, external debt repayment.

The total national debt stood at \$260.4 million at the end of the year. Revenue collections for the October-December period of just below \$60 million showed an increase of \$11.2 million or 23 per cent over the same period of 1978, the review disclosed.

Of the total intake, tax revenue represented \$53.5 million, or 89 per cent, and non-tax revenue was \$6.4 million, or 11 percent.

According to the Central Bank, the \$10.9 million increase in tax revenue is attributed to a rise in receipts from import taxes of \$7.9 million, "selective" taxes of \$1.1 million, and export and property taxes of \$0.6 million each.

According to the review, expenditure for the quarter totalled \$68.3 million-- a decrease of \$2.2 million or three per cent below outlays in the comparable period of 1978.

Current expenditure over the fourth quarter of 1979 represented an increase of \$4.3 million, or eight per cent over the corresponding period of 1978.

The Central Bank disclosed that under current expenditure the consumption items, "purchases of goods and services" and "personal emoluments," increased by \$3.1 million and \$0.6 million respectively.

But capital expenditure declined by \$6.5 million to \$12.9 million, compared with 1978's corresponding period.

The review said, however, that a closer examination reveals that during the fourth quarter of 1978, "an extraordinary transaction took place." It did not reveal what the "extraordinary transaction" was.

"If this extraordinary transaction is not taken into account, capital expenditure would actually show an expansion during the quarter under review with capital formation increasing by \$2.8 million to \$8.3 million, and capital transfers to public enterprises by \$2.3 million to \$4.5 million," the review said.

It reported continued growth in the Bahamian money supply, which stemmed mainly from expansion of domestic credit in Bahamian dollars.

Overall, total domestic credit increased by \$24.1 million (5.5 per cent). Net claims on government and claims on the private sector showed increases of \$8 million and \$13.8 million (10.2 per cent and 3.9 per cent) respectively.

The expansion in net credit to government was primarily in the increase in Central Bank short-term advances to government.

The Central Bank noted that there was "a shift in the holding of treasury bills from commercial banks to public corporations."

In addition to extending \$7 million credit to government, the Central Bank also increased its holdings of treasury bills to \$6.6 million from a zero balance in the previous quarter.

"This shift resulted from the commercial banks' low level of liquidity following expansion in private demand for credit," the Central Bank said.

CSO: 3020

FINANCE MINISTER HANNA ADDRESSES CDB MEETING

FL081855 Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 5 May 80 pp 1, 9

[Article by Anthony Forbes]

[Text] Finance and Deputy Prime Minister Arthur D Hanna said today each developing member country of the Caribbean Development Bank is faced with problems of development and must devise their own strategies for development.

"The bank (CDB) therefore, if it is to continue to be one of the instruments for development in member countries, must take note of these appropriate strategies and govern itself accordingly," said Mr Hanna.

Mr Hanna, the chairman of the DCB Board of Governors, pointed out in his 25-minute address today four strategies in the Bahamas' main development thrust over the next few years.

He told delegates from the Caribbean and various parts of the world attending the two-day conference, that the first strategy will be to generate additional activity and provide sufficient opportunities necessary to provide jobs for the unemployed and for new entrants to the labour force particularly in low income groups.

"Secondly to provide sufficient economic growth through export oriented activities; thirdly to undertake an import substitution effort with appropriate linkages to the tourism sector and fourthly, to develop sufficient economic activity in our family islands to reduce or eliminate migration to new providence," said Mr Hanna.

"In the Bahamas we have been reasonably successful in our effort to cope with the problems of development and nation building because the vast majority of our people have been united in their resolve so to do and we have rejected the carping of those who seek to destroy that unity," he added.

He said: "It is in this spirit, that I have great faith that the coming years will see the fine record of growth in the Caribbean Development Bank continued."

He said that the Caribbean countries, including the Bahamas, faced many common obstacles as small island nations inflation, energy and unemployment are all problems which must be solved.

"For far too long our respective economies have been buffeted by the economic ill winds of larger nations," he said. "For far too long our respective shores have reaped the tides of inflation which reverberate from our larger neighbours."

Mr Hanna said that while the CDB continues to move in the direction which it contributes, "as much as possible, to the diversification of our economies and increasing productivity, the bank must continue to support projects which will lead to self-sufficiency in those areas which in the past have contributed to the importing of inflation."

"It must do more to identify import substitution opportunities particularly the basic necessities of food, clothing and construction materials," he said.

He said the bank must encourage research and development of energy sources as an alternative to increasing oil imports.

"The use of the ocean's tidal action for generating electricity and off-shore exploration must be encouraged," he said. "Wind and sail must be used to supplement the combustion engines on our fishing vessels. Solar water heaters must be fabricated for domestic use."

He said that windmills must be manufactured to pump irrigation waters for our fields and, perhaps, even to generate electricity for storage batteries for use in rural and farm dwellings.

"The feasibility for gasohol production must be investigated as well as reforestation for the production of the renewable resource of wood," said Mr Hanna.

He also suggested that serious consideration be given to the study of the potential offered by coal for steam generating plants for electricity.

"In undertaking such studies, the bank might point the way toward providing an alternative to imported oil by returning to traditional sources of energy, thereby creating new employment opportunities, and perhaps not while entirely eliminating, at least reducing oil imports and, in some measure, inflation," he said.

He also said that "efforts must be made to increase the multiplier effect of the tourist expenditure upon the economies of our countries."

"This translates again into import substitution of food, beverages, recreational clothing, etc.

"Recognizing that our actions have not caused this worldwide inflation—that is hardly an excuse not to do everything possible to keep this economic cancer from spreading uncontrolled to the point where our earnings from tourism are affected because we have been priced out of the market," Mr Hanna said.

During the past decade "we have seen many unanticipated worldwide economic events make their impact upon the region and the economies of all within the area," he said.

"I dare say the next two decades will likewise witness continued and profound changes that will tax the ingenuity and leadership of every member nation in the commonwealth Caribbean along with the regional institutions we have established," he said.

Mr Hanna also said that during the decade of the 1980's it seems prudent that "we should continue to strengthen the resources of the CDB, both in terms of its financial capabilities and its manpower needs."

He said the constraints which at present limit the bank's borrowing power on the international money markets should be reviewed with a view to widening the present limits.

"Fellow governors, this matter seems to be closely related to the whole question of widening the membership of CDB," he said. "While caution must be exercised in this regard, some positive decision must be taken if the continued growth and effectiveness of the bank is to be achieved."

He pointed out that the future of the world will depend largely on how wisely man exploits and preserves the resources of the sea.

He said he was most pleased to learn of the investigative work the bank recently undertook relative to the potential offered through the establishment of mariculture facilities as an activity to increase food supply for both domestic consumption and for export.

"The possibilities mariculture offers as a potential bankable project for banks and development finance corporations holds great promise and I suggest that research in this field continue for purposes of selecting those species most suitable for cultivation in a controlled environment," he said.

However, he added, the availability of funds as well as the transfer of appropriate technology will not, in and of itself, see such projects implemented.

"That necessary ingredient, the catalyst of any endeavour, must also be present," Mr Hanna said. "I speak of the entrepreneur, or translated into banking parlance--the subloan borrower."

"We must identify, nurture and encourage those qualities in our respective populations which generate the traits and characteristics in individuals which will engender in them that dynamic force which translates "plans" into "production action," he said.

BANK DECLARES INCREASE IN OIL BILL INFLATION FACTOR

FL081410 Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 3 May 80 p 1

[Text] External factors, such as the large increase in the nation's fuel bill, have been largely responsible for the 51.7 per cent inflation rate that has occurred over the last seven years.

Other leading factors include food and clothing prices, the Central Bank said in its quarterly review.

From 1973, the country's fuel bill increased from \$21 million to an anticipated \$100 million this year, the review said. This was revealed by Prime Minister Pindling earlier in the year.

Feeding inflation are the food prices, which have climbed by over 60 per cent during the seven-year period, footwear and transportation prices, which have gone up by over 57 per cent.

Other goods and services went up by almost 50 per cent, the all-items index by over 55 per cent and housing by 33.8 per cent.

"This externally generated inflation in the Bahamas has several policy implications," the Central Bank said.

"While internally generated inflation can be controlled by domestic policy measures, externally generated inflation virtually leaves no room for manoeuvre for a small developing country like the Bahamas."

The Central Bank noted that imported goods not only go into financial consumption, but are also used for inputs for the production of goods and services for export.

Costs of imported inputs combined with domestic wages, labour and profits, and indirect government taxes determine the prices of tourist services for export.

And warned the Central Bank: "Since the demand for tourist services is so price-elastic, any inordinate increase in the price of services for export... is bound to reduce the demand for tourist services and lead to a fall in foreign exchange earnings."

"As a developing country like the Bahamas cannot influence the price of its imported input, it has to bear alone the burden of adjusting its economy to vagaries of external forces in order to strengthen its efforts to maintain the competitiveness of its tourist industry in the international market."

The Central Bank pointed out that the price of a barrel of propane gas, used primarily for cooking, is estimated to have risen from \$13 during the first quarter of 1977 to over \$19 in 1979's last quarter, a rise of more than 50 per cent.

Despite the increase in price, there are no signs of any decrease in the annual consumption of 100,000 barrels a year. But there are signs of growth, the Central Bank said.

Motor gasoline sold for an average of \$32.17 for a barrel at the end of 1979, compared with \$19.04 at the end of 1977. This represents a 76.1 per cent increase from a low of \$18.27 recorded during the second quarter of 1978.

But statistics show there has been a fairly marked increase, from 708,500 barrels in 1977 to 888,100 thousand barrels in 1979, a 24 per cent increase.

The total import bill for gasoline was \$13.3 million in 1977, and \$25.3 million in 1979.

Aviation gas prices have been the highest of all the products except lubricants, and have also been increasing by almost unsurpassed percentages.

The rise was from \$25.57 per barrel in 1977 first quarter, to \$54.49 in 1979 fourth quarter, or 113 per cent, the Central Bank said.

"It is anticipated that the current trends in oil prices will continue, and that the adverse impact on the country's balance of payments will have to be met with increased efforts at conserving in order that growth may continue in those areas which provide increased foreign currency income," it warned.

CSO: 3020

COSTA RICA

ROMANIAN LINES OF CREDIT, IMPORTS REPORTED

San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 13 Mar 80 p 26

[Text] The Central Bank of Costa Rica has opened lines of credit in Bucharest, Romania, in the amount of US \$10 million, for the import of Romanian-made equipment, machinery, and industrial facilities.

The state banks were authorized to handle the operations in accordance with the following terms: term of credit: based on the amount of the purchase, ranging from 2 to 8 years; interest rate: 9.5 percent per annum.

Amounts of up to 8 percent of the value of the contract (FOB) in Romanian ports are being financed. The following list includes Romanian products which could be imported using this line of credit, signed by the Romanian Bank of Foreign Trade and the Central Bank of Costa Rica.

1. machinery and facilities
2. petroleum equipment for drilling, extraction, and refineries
3. facilities for mechanical construction industries
4. mining equipment
5. food storage industry equipment (refrigeration)
6. cement factories
7. hydraulic and thermoelectric turbines
8. oceangoing and river vessels
9. excavators and construction machinery
10. railway freight and passenger cars, tank cars, parts. assembly lines, related equipment and tools
11. transformers and electric motors
12. cables and electricity conductors
13. electric motors

14. generators
15. welding converters with electrical and thermal motors
16. power condensers
17. electrical insulation equipment
18. high voltage equipment (switches, separators, lightning conductors, current and voltage transformers)
19. manual electrometric tools
20. machine tools for metalworking
21. machinery and equipment for processing wood
22. machines for textile industries
23. measurement instruments (mass, width, pressure)
24. planes, helicopters, gliders
25. medical equipment
26. bearings, ball bearings, ball races for bearings, clamps
27. tractors and farm machinery
28. computer technology
29. telephone central exchanges and telephones
30. televisions and radios
31. automation elements
32. steel and alloy products
33. thick layers, thin layers (hard laminated)
34. instant (hot) laminated bands
35. tube linings
36. black and galvanized welded tubes
37. bars (UNP, INP, angular, round, flat steel, etc.)
38. hard bars
39. black, white, and galvanized hard-drawn wires
40. traction cables
41. carbon steel and alloys for tools
42. aluminum products and aluminum alloys (blocks, plates, rods, wire, layers, and hard-laminated bands, bars)
43. petroleum pipes, rods,
44. complex facilities for forest cultivation, the lumber industry, cellulose, paper, and cane industries, and for the construction materials industry
45. equipment and parts made in factories and plants for the lumber products industry and construction materials
46. complex facilities and technological equipment needed for processing (aluminum, diatomite, other nonferrous metals industries)
47. equipment and facilities for the food products industry, including: cold storage facilities, milling facilities, silos, lines for processing meat, milk, and fruits.

7679

CSO: 3010

COSTA RICA

ALCOHOL TO REPLACE OIL AS FUEL

San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 11 Mar 80 p 6A

[Text] Within a period of 6 years Costa Rica will have enough alcohol to replace its present imports of petroleum and its derivatives, said the minister of energy, Mr Edmond Woodbridge.

He commented on some opinions expressed by the former president, Jose Figueres, who termed the closing of the alcohol plant located in Guanacaste province "ridiculous."

Figueres also said that strict fuel rationing will have to be imposed in Costa Rica, and sugar cane cultivation will have to be promoted in order to satisfy the demands of the alcohol plant.

As a response to these claims, the minister of energy mentioned that the sugar cane cultivation program will begin before June.

He said that this program will enable us to replace our present imports of expensive, nonrenewable resources with renewable, local products.

Woodbridge revealed that since he became minister of energy, he has been meeting with political leaders from a number of groups in order to discuss aspects of the world energy crisis "that affects us so severely."

For that reason, he said, he could not consider the statements made by Mr Figueres as "a declaration of war upon the government, since the former president is dealing with issues which I had the pleasure of discussing with him."

Petroleum

The minister of energy also said that since 1979 geographic regions have been drawn up for the purposes of exploration and exploitation of any petroleum resources that our country may contain.

He mentioned that in mid-1979 the executive authority presented to the Legislative Assembly a hydrocarbons bill that not only regulates the exploitation and exploration of these resources, but also their sale, distribution, transport, export, and petrochemical development.

This bill is now being studied by the Economic Affairs Committee of the Legislative Assembly.

Woodbridge said that the ICE [Costa Rican Institute of Electricity] a few days ago released its plans to expand the production of hydroelectric and geothermal energy.

"At the same time discussions are in progress about having private activities generate the hydroelectric power that they need, independently of the ICE, but subject to state control."

Transport

The minister also said that in the area of transport the Costa Ricans are being informed about programs now being carried out to totally electrify the railways and to expand their lines to other destination points.

"Concerning mass transportation, the decision to use this same type of energy for it has already been announced. Work will begin in the Central Meseta [plateau] and will expand from there, based on the country's needs," he said.

In closing, he said that "we all agree that Costa Rica has not been able to isolate itself from the rest of the world in this very serious economic crisis, whose most damaging aspect for Costa Rica lies in the balance of payments, since right now we are petroleum importers."

"We all agree that it is very necessary for all Costa Ricans to face this challenge with responsibility and courage. For we must all take part in this struggle to save our country."

7679

CSO: 3010

CENTRAL AMERICAN INTEGRATION PROCESS DISCUSSED

Foreign Ministers' Meeting Results

San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 18 Mar 80 p 14A

[Editorial: "Foreign Ministers' Meeting"]

[Text] The meeting of Central American foreign ministers that was held in San Jose on 14 and 15 March served to reactivate regional unity, which had weakened considerably recently. The mere fact that there had been no similar meeting in the last 8 months is sufficient proof of this.

Now, on the contrary, there is agreement on the fact that it is necessary to keep holding these meetings with greater frequency, every 4 months on the average or more often if there is a special reason for doing so. The next meeting has already been called for 20-22 June in Managua.

The political instability being faced by the region to which we belong, from Guatemala to Panama, has had the merit of opening our eyes and awakening us from the kind of lethargy we experienced during the last decade. From 1970 to 1980, in fact, institutions such as the Central American Common Market (CACM) or the Organization of Central American States (OCAS) saw themselves reduced to mere numbers without practical significance.

We need to have all those instruments operating properly, as well as any other mechanisms which may be set up, because of the dangers and the very special historical circumstances existing in Central America and the world. In this region, previously relatively peaceful, violence is knocking at the door through various channels.

We Central Americans must reunite around the best values which form the basis of our concept of democratic and republican life.

A resounding "no" to violence and a fervent "yes" to dynamic and creative peace are the unquestioned needs of the present moment.

Agreement on this point is unanimous. Internal peace is required in each of the six countries of the isthmus, as well as international peace between each and every one of them, together with an initiative such as declaring the area a region of peace, so that we can devote ourselves without limitations to working for progress, justice, freedom and human rights.

The effort made to preserve peace in this Central American area containing 20 million inhabitants which has an enviable geographic and strategic position, will have repercussions throughout the hemisphere. This is guaranteed by the fact that countries with a common past and cultural tradition can also unite more easily to overcome the dangers lying in wait for all of us and assure for ourselves the promising future which these peoples desire.

It is necessary for the six countries of the region, along with their governments and peoples, to make rational use of their cultural and natural resources, which should be placed at the service of economic and social advancement, as the sole pathway to guaranteeing a common destiny in peace.

Thus there is an imperative need for civilized coexistence and regional integration, brought about under the aegis of mutual respect, self-determination, nonintervention and the other values which were underscored at the foreign ministers' meeting and which were set forth in the final communique as the expressions of the aspiration of these nations.

Common Market Problems

San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 21 Mar 80 p 14A

[Editorial by Claudio Gonzalez: "Farewell to the Common Market"]

[Text] The stage of economic development which was initiated in Central America after World War II is coming to an end. Circumstances of an economic and political character are contributing to this.

On the one hand, in recent years there have been phenomena little known to the region previously, including an increasing dependence on imported energy products, a rapid acceleration in the inflationary process, increasing foreign indebtedness and an exacerbation of social tensions. The current development model, which per se was already showing signs of deterioration and exhaustion has been and will be unable to provide solutions to new problems.

On the other hand, the defeat of the Somoza dynasty in Nicaragua and the seizing of power in that country by groups which are seeking new political economy orientations; agrarian reform and nationalization of

the banking system in El Salvador, which in a short time have substantially changed the distribution of the ownership of the means of production in that country; as well as the high probability of new and dramatic changes in the economic and political picture of other countries in the region, are all signs that Central America is getting ready to embark on new strategies of development.

The Common Market has been the most salient manifestation of the era that is ending. Apparently, its two principal characteristics, free trade between the associated countries and a common tariff barrier via-a-vis the rest of the world, are not going to be compatible with the new political-economic systems which are being born in some of the Central American countries.

It is unlikely that free trade and protectionism by means of customs duties will be the favorite instruments of the new socialized economies of the region with their nationalized foreign trade.

At the same time, one of the most evident results of common development during the last few decades is that the Central American economies are now more interdependent than ever. For that reason, when we say that the Common Market, with its principal instruments of free trade and protectionism has come to an end, we are not ignoring this fundamental fact. Our economies will continue to be intimately linked; however, the forms of relations will be quite different from those now existing: they will be more bilateral, more dependent on the administrative apparatus, on import permits and on quotas, which are less permanent and more vulnerable to political changes.

Costa Rica should begin to examine seriously the options resulting from these changes. Do we want to keep a market economy with private property? What should be the role of the state in the country's economic development? Can our industrialization process continue to be dependent to a high degree on Central American markets or should we diversify our economic relations and seek new markets? What will be the policy instruments which will provide adequate guidance for the businessman toward new goals? Where are we going?

8143

CSO: 3010

REACTIONS TO CARAZO-FORMER PRESIDENTS' CONTROVERSY

Figueres Scores Violent Change

San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 14 Mar 80 p 3

[For initial reportage on the Carazo-former presidents' controversy see JPRS 75683, 13 May 1980, No 2146 of this series pp 30-33]

[Text] Upon calling attention to the fact that the country may be experiencing a situation capable of erupting in violence, former President Figueres told journalists that he is convinced that "a bad government is better than a good revolution."

Figueres, after signing a "manifesto to the nation" with former Presidents Trejos, Echandi and Oduber (which is being published separately), stated that in that document he had indicated his opposition to suggesting that President Carazo change his cabinet and the directors of the autonomous institutions. "I have tried to ensure that no one has any reason to call me a domineering mother-in-law, so I have chosen not to interfere in the activities of my successors in the presidency," explained Figueres.

The former leader indicated that the suggestion that Carazo change the members of his cabinet originated in a comment he made in his office, more or less in jest, to the effect that the document should contain some concrete proposal, for example that Carazo ask the ministers to resign or that they ask him to resign.

Figueres expressed his concern about the climate that is emerging in this country, which he called "very dangerous, even considering that halfway through any presidential term there is always a crisis."

"When he took office, Professor Trejos sent Don Raul Hess to ask me what I thought about the rumors that were circulating about a coup d'etat. I sent word back that he was the president and I a mere citizen, and that he should tell me where to go to defend him. I continue to think the same way," said Figueres.

The former president recalled that he took full responsibility for the war of 1948, "because then we were not allowed to vote," he explained, adding: "But now there is no moral or other justification for speaking of these things."

Figueres spoke with journalists upon leaving the Former Presidents Room at the Legislative Assembly immediately after the ceremony at which the former presidents signed the manifesto.

Don Pepe, referring to Mr Barahona Streber's efforts to launch a movement for national unity to work for the benefit of the nation, expressed his hopes for its success.

Former Presidents' Position Hailed

San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 14 Mar 80 p 10

[Text] We have read the "Manifesto to the Nation" signed yesterday by our four former presidents with the care it deserves because of its distinguished authors and the importance of its subject matter. In our opinion, it lights the way for our nation in its march forward in search of the common good.

The document, whose full text appears in this issue, has some features which merit separate treatment, because each aspect is important in and of itself, and because the results will be different.

If we agree that the four former presidents correctly interpreted the sentiments of the various national sectors which they head, we must also agree that the manifesto is a clear indication of the isolation of the Carazo Administration. Lacking the popular support that is indispensable for any political action, the government should take a different path and try to win back its public. This is the only way to bring about a successful achievement of our goals.

This aspect of the manifesto to Costa Ricans could have very favorable results, unless the public turns a deaf ear to the real significance of this historic agreement of four political leaders who have traditionally opposed each other.

The call for national unity in the document, reminding us all of our duty to work harmoniously to save the nation from the obvious threats it now faces, is another positive aspect. It would be even more positive if we could be sure that any of the political sectors were really willing to attain this harmony outside of spectacular speeches, press conferences or roundtable discussions. Experience has shown us that in the institutions where the political sectors are represented, their spokesmen are always looking for a fight, wasting time in political skirmishes and rendering these institutions alarmingly ineffective.

National harmony is the desire of the entire population, but it can only have the value that comes from practical application. As the subject of speeches or lectures, it can become a mere siren song that no longer charms anyone.

The manifesto lacks any serious proposal for a radical change in the policy that is being implemented; it is not enough merely to point out the problems that all Costa Ricans are well aware of through their own experiences, or to suggest a simple change of personnel in the cabinet or the autonomous agencies. Even if all those people were incompetent, the problem does not lie in their presence in the administration, but in the policy they are required to apply.

To tell the president to "replace these people with others who have been identified with the goals" outlined by the former presidents, and that the new members "must have the confidence" of these men, shows a certain naivete on their part, especially considering Carazo's egotism, his desire to intervene in everything and to dictate to everyone.

This proposal looks like a concession, which is inconsistent with our experience and with the undeniable skill of the former presidents. They know beforehand that the president cannot make such a concession. If he wanted to please them, he could simply appoint a group of "yes men" as replacements. In that case, instead of staying the same things would get worse.

We expected that they would clearly stipulate the conditions under which the political groups would work harmoniously for the good of the country, putting into practice the old slogan from an Echandi campaign, "Country before party." But we must note that if that didn't happen this time, at least the groundwork was laid and the influential group capable of drawing up that specific proposal was formed.

Importance of Position Noted

San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 15 Mar 80 p 14A

[Text] The document that was read publicly last Thursday in the Former Presidents' Room of the Legislative Assembly and signed by former Presidents Jose Figueres Ferrer, Jose Joaquin Trejos Fernandez, Mario Echandi Jimenez and Daniel Oduber Quirós (that is, all the living politicians who have served as chief of state), has its own special significance independently of the process that made it possible and of the people or civic groups that inspired or promoted it.

This importance stems not only from the authority of those who signed the document--the four ex-presidents--but also from the contents and significance of the text itself. This unusual manifesto by the four former presidents did not need a program or list of specific problems and solutions to carry the political and moral weight that it does, and will continue to carry for the duration of the current administration.

Its importance is due more to the fact that it constitutes a judgment of the administration that is consistent with the process of public opinion which has revolved around precisely the same problems that are enumerated in the document.

This is an unprecedented political proposal, not the result of caprice or political whims, but inspired by the imminent threat of events which could seriously compromise our institutions and traditions as a responsible, peaceful nation. This is a dramatic diagnosis of the current situation, and particularly of the performance of an administration which has failed to provide the nation with a sense of security or a feeling for the direction it is leading us in. The value of this diagnosis lies in the precision with which it enumerates the main symptoms of crisis. All Costa Ricans, regardless of political persuasion, have felt these symptoms in some way. Among these signs, two stand out: 1) Weakening of national solidarity and governing authority, which has led to a lack of confidence here and abroad; and 2) Lack of a coherent policy in the economic and social spheres, which in turn causes lower productivity, especially in the agricultural sector, the failure to develop a national energy program, the high cost of living, the fiscal crisis and the housing shortage.

With some variations, this same theme has been debated particularly intensely in the past year. The fact that the four former presidents have endorsed this diagnosis of public opinion and thereby elevated it to the position of historic document, should give President Carazo some food for thought. The important thing is not the proposals or the concrete solutions to the nation's basic problems; that is a question of implementation or practical investigation. What really matters, in our opinion, is that the document points out with unequivocal clarity the defects of this administration. The patriotic and sincere recognition of these problems makes it possible for the former leaders and all sectors of the population to cooperate in an expression of national unity.

If there is no recognition, if the president refuses to listen to the warnings and continues to trust his own perception of the national scene and the efforts of the administration which seems to hold him captive, the consequences could be very serious indeed. This attitude does not correspond to the times or to the crucial circumstances in which Costa Rica finds itself. It could lead to a wrenching separation of the government from the rest of the nation, to a dichotomy of serious consequences. Furthermore, the convulsions of Central American politics could aggravate those consequences even further.

8926

CSO: 3010

COSTA RICA

BRIEFS

PETROLEUM CONSUMPTION IN 1979--Costa Rican consumption of petroleum derivatives last year declined by 13 percent, reported Jorge Villalobos of RECOPE [Costa Rican Petroleum Refinery]. He said that this year it is estimated that there will be a decline between 10 and 15 percent. This is due to the fact that the ICE [Costa Rican Institute of Electricity] will use a substantially lesser amount of diesel fuel to generate electricity. He commented that the ICE in 1979 consumed 550,000 barrels of petroleum products, and in 1980 it will use only 80,000. He said that now the total of national consumption is divided as follows: 50 percent diesel, 20 percent gasoline, 10 percent kerosene, 17 percent bunker, and the remainder, other byproducts. [Text] [San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 23 Mar 80 p 3] 7679

'PRELA' COMMENTS ON VANCE'S RESIGNATION

FL101532 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1045 GMT 10 May 80

[Text] An article recently published by PRENSA LATINA refers to the differences that existed between Zbigniew Brzezinski and Cyrus Vance in connection with the U.S. policy toward El Salvador and Nicaragua. It states that some pieces are still missing to fully reconstruct the checkboard of the game of decisions played during the second half of June 1979 at a Washington meeting of the Organization of American States, where Brzezinski maneuver was defeated.

Had the positions of Carter's adviser for national security been successful at the time, a Pan-americanized interventionist force would have been sent to Nicaragua. Through the daily WASHINGTON POST, it was learned that Cyrus Vance arrived at the meeting with his own notebook which did not include a foreign expedition and in which Brzezinski at the last minute introduced the inter-American peace force.

At the time an effort was made to impede the total collapse of the national guard. There were no visible ways of preserving the power of the Somoza family and the risk that the government would be seized by the Sandinist National Liberation Front was inevitable. Then, they took up the idea of activating the filed-away Pan-american interventionist force, which Vance did not like. But because it was Carter's order, he had to accept it.

As can be recalled, the motion was defeated by a majority of the OAS members and constituted a resounding defeat for Brzezinski? According to PRENSA LATINA, weeks later there was a breakdown in the well-lubricated governing system of El Salvador with the installation of a civilian-military junta which in its first months of life wore a mask to deceive public opinion and the people. The new model was not able to resist the test of reality. The junta showed a likeable image with democratizing intentions while the links loosened and broken by the 15 October 1979 coup were rapidly being repaired and restructured.

In November the Salvadoran Armed Forces were trained by the United States against mobile insurgents. This produced a substantial change in the self-imposed cold attitude of the Salvadoran military toward Washington and resulted in the emergence of new differences between Vance and Brzezinski. Brzezinski, in the presence of Carter, supported the need for urgently rearming and training the Salvadoran Armed Forces.

Last January, going against Vance's position, the Carter adviser was able to add some \$7 million more of specific military aid to a project amounting to \$49.5 million in emergency economic aid aimed at stabilizing the economic situation in El Salvador. Defending their positions, the Department of Defense and the National Security Council announced that the military aid consisted of sending two experts to train three Salvadoran battalions in logistics, communications and intelligence.

Vance believed that the involvement proposed by Brzezinski and Brown would lead, in successive steps, to a situation similar to Vietnam and did not want to see something like that to happen in El Salvador. Archbishop Oscar Arnulfo Romero also opposed such plans and 2 days after announcing he would ask Carter to cancel the plan, he was gunned down. Vance was not able to do much to oppose Brzezinski and Brown. Arnulfo was assassinated and Vance has now resigned as a result of Carter's failure in Iran. As PRENSA LATINA asserted, the cup had overflowed.

CSO: 3010

AALAPSO ROUNDTABLE VOICES SOLIDARITY WITH URUGUAYANS

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 27 Mar 80 p 3

[Article by Joaquin Rivery]

[Text] World solidarity with the struggle of the Uruguayan people to overthrow the dictatorship, for freedom of political prisoners and for democracy was emphasized in the speeches of the representatives of several countries and continents and in the final communique issued by the Afro-Asian-Latin American People's Solidarity Organization (AALAPSO), which sponsored the cycle of roundtable discussions concluded yesterday at the Convention Palace.

The theme of the third roundtable of this meeting was "Tricontinental Solidarity With Uruguay," and was chaired by Elena Gil, president of the Cuban Movement for Peace and Sovereignty of the Peoples and a member of the Cuban Communist Party Central Committee; Melba Hernandez, secretary general of AALAPSO; Leopoldo Brueras, representing the Broad Front, and others.

The expressions of solidarity began with messages read by Juan Jose Leon, vice president of ANAP [National Association of Small Farmers]; Idalia Gonzalez, of the Secretariat of Foreign Relations of the FMC [Cuban Womens Federation]; Jesus Escandel, secretary of foreign relations of the CTC [Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions]; and Felipe Suarez, of the Secretariat of Foreign Relations of the CDR [Committees for Defense of the Revolution].

The OCLAE [Continental Organization of Latin American Students] representative, Patricio Tapia, saluted AALAPSO's initiative in organizing the cycle of roundtables and reiterated student solidarity with the struggle of the Uruguayan people against the fascist dictatorship.

Jeronimo Cardoso, a former air force captain exiled in Mexico, then read a communique from the Broad Front calling upon all Uruguayans, regardless of ideologies and creeds, to unite in a national joint effort against the dictatorship.

Moderator Pablo Carlevaro then introduced Alex La Guma, of the National African Congress of South Africa; Nguyen Xuan Phong, of Vietnam; Maurice Nhora, of the National Lebanese Movement, and Freddy Figueroa, of the Nicaraguan FSLN [Sandinist National Liberation Front], who firmly demonstrated their solidarity with the Uruguayan people on behalf of Africa, Asia, the Arab peoples and Latin America.

Jamaica's ambassador to Cuba, Winston Keith, reiterated the solidarity of his government and people with the Uruguayan fighters and especially denounced the alliance of the fascist regimes of the Latin American cone with the racism of the South African cone.

Uruguayan writer Alfredo Gravina later read a poem titled "General of the People," dedicated to Liber Seregni.

Finally, the secretary general of AALAPSO read a communique from that organization on the occasion of the rally for solidarity with Uruguay, in which it reiterated its support for the Uruguayan people and urged the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America to condemn the fascist dictatorship in that country and to redouble their efforts in demanding amnesty for political prisoners, among them Liber Seregni, Jaime Perez, Raul Sendic, Jose Luis Massera, Hector Rodriguez and others.

8735

CSO: 3010

CHE GUEVARA INTERNATIONALIST MEMBERS CONFER WITH OFFICIAL

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 18 Mar 80 p 3

[Article by Roger Ricardo Luis]

[Text] Jose Ramon Fernandez, vice president of the Council of Ministers and minister of education, met yesterday afternoon at MINED [Ministry of Education] headquarters with a group of 33 vanguard members of the Second Contingent of the Che Guevara Internationalist Teachers Detachment, which is now on vacation.

The vanguard group is made up of one outstanding youth for each Angolan province, with the exception of Luanda, which has two, and the 17 from the Mexico region, the most outstanding in the emulation developed by the detachment in the African sister nation.

Fernandez inquired about the class schedules, the kind of basic study materials they use in their work, the promotion of the respective groups of students and the living conditions, among other things.

He urged the young teachers to carry out every day a purer work and to take care to set a good example, since they represent the Cuban Revolution and, especially, the youth to the Angolan people.

Also present at the meeting were Asela de los Santos and Elisa Wong, first vice minister and vice minister of MINED, respectively, and Roberto Robaina, president of the Cuban FEU [Federation of University Students].

Meeting With UJC National Bureau

On Sunday the young vanguards of the Che Guevara Internationalist Teachers Detachment met with members of the UJC National Bureau and the FEU National Secretariat, where they received diplomas accrediting them with their high distinction.

8735

CSO: 3010

EMPLOYMENT, WORK ORGANIZATION POLICY ENUNCIATED

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 7 Apr 80 p 2

[Text] Throughout this entire month of April, the cadres, militants, and party membership applicants will be attending the study group dealing with chapters V-VIII of the Program Platform of the Communist Party of Cuba. In order to broaden and develop in depth the interesting aspects covered in these chapters, the Economic Department of the Party Central Committee has drafted this article (to be published in two parts); it will take up these issues in the light of the country's socio-economic problems. This is why all comrades are urged to study the material in the certainty that it will be very helpful to them in understanding the topics to be debated during the training cycle.

Chapters V, VI, VII, and VIII of the Communist Party of Cuba's Program Platform take up the principles and objectives of an economic nature during the current period of building socialism, as assembled for the successful resolution of six great historical challenges, six "complex but beautiful tasks" so that, upon completion, we can say that "we have fundamentally concluded the construction of socialism in Cuba and we will now start the socialist phase."

These tasks are as follows:

"Development of the construction of the technical-material base of socialism;

"Development and application of socialist production relationships until they are the only ones in effect;

"In-depth development of the people's multilateral education;

"Further development of the cultural revolution which is currently being carried out in Cuba;

"Perfection of the Communist Party of Cuba as the supreme leader of Cuban society's entire life and strengthening of the UJC [Union of Young Communists] and the social and mass organizations;

"Perfection of the democratic organization of the socialist state."

The colossal historical task has to do not only with our destiny as a country but, as the Program Platform says:

"With the culmination of the construction of socialism, the Cuban people will have done its historical and inescapable duty to the world proletariat and the peoples of Latin America: the construction of the first socialist society on the American continent."

The Platform describes the social heritage of capitalism in Cuba as follows:

"A deformed economic structure, with a backward agricultural and livestock base, with scant industrial development, concentrated primarily in the sugar industry. Hence, the revolution's economic policy was aimed at re-organizing and developing the economy so as to put an end to its structural deformation; to develop the nation's industry; to diversify and increase agricultural and livestock output; to increase the number of exportable items and the volume of exports; and progressively to raise the people's living standard."

Starting with the 5-year period of 1976-1980, this national policy was carried out on the basis of the country's progressive industrialization, a process in which the development of the sugar industry and of the machine-building industry, energy, mining, the chemical industry, the construction materials industry, the food industry, the consumer goods industry, and the pharmaceutical industry played a first-ranking order, along with growing mechanization and technical development in agricultural and livestock production.

All of this was cemented by a constant rise in labor productivity which was designed to enable us "to leave far behind the achievements of our capitalist past in all areas of the economy."

In view of the vastness of the topics included in these chapters and because of the decisive character of labor productivity, which must play "the most important role in increasing social output," we believe that it is very appropriate to devote this material very specially to the current policy in the matter of employment and labor organization as well as wages, keeping in mind that the aspects of work discipline and labor legislation have become the cardinal concern of the party's and the government's top leadership as well as frequent topics of remarks by the first and second secretaries of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba in recent times.

Resolution 8 of the Central Committee Plenum in May 1979 issued a strong appeal to the conscience of all regarding the serious inconveniences encountered in the implementation of the principle of socialist distribution based on work quality and quantity, even though fundamentally we do have the indispensable methodological and juridical foundation.

The 14th Congress of the CTC [Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions] vigorously concentrated its attention on this phenomenon since 1978.

The following factors, so far influencing the tie-in between wage and output, were contained in the central report submitted to the 14th Worker Congress:

"We find with considerable concern that, over the past 18 months, the extent of this linkage has advanced very slowly and, in some cases, has even lost ground. To explain the situation, we must look at the influence of the following factors, among others:

"The uncertainty regarding the guarantees of technical-material supplies deriving from the drop in sugar prices starting in 1976.

"The priority which, starting during the second half of 1976, was assigned to the execution of the institutional, territorial, and structural changes in government and labor union organization and the subsequent development of a broad movement of leadership and technical cadres which demanded a period of initial adjustment and reorientation.

"The inescapable effort demanded of organizations and enterprises by the other tasks involved in the institution of the economic management and planning system and very particularly the assignment of the majority of available skilled personnel to a study of scientific work organization in selected enterprises

"The vagueness surrounding issues such as work assignments and wages for available personnel, wage scales, seniority-based wages, and payment for work interruptions.

"The fact that, during 1974 and 1975, this linkage was extended to most of the workers who held manual jobs and manual-mechanical jobs where they would be likely to get their wages on a piecework basis, and the lack of precision regarding the implementation of other, more complex payment systems which called for the preparation and/or approval of very specific methodologies in order to extend the tie-in of wages with output to machine-connected jobs and other service sectors.

"These factors in effect to a greater or lesser extent influenced the slow motion observed in the extension of this process in recent times, as well as the deterioration in its execution at some work places.

"The above however does not refute the fact that there has also been easy-going attitudes aimed at avoiding stiff requirements and obligations inherent in the materialization of the principle of wage distribution according to work done.

"Everybody recognizes this principle as being fair and adequate for the current phase in the country's economic and social development but not everybody shows that they understand it when it comes to practical action.

"Underestimating the need for consistently implementing this principle means promoting a relaxation in the work effort at a moment when the economic situation demands a maximum effort; this is tantamount to distorting the realistic measurement of work expenditures; it means undermining the policy aimed at cost reductions and it obviously affects the fight to increase productivity and to implement the Economic Management and Planning System; it furthermore means affecting the political and ideological development of the new man, it means violating principles of Marxism-Leninism and disregarding the fundamental resolutions of our party's First Congress."

It is obvious that the increase in social labor productivity will generate manpower savings as we reduce the work time necessary per unit of output. This is precisely the great virtue of the productivity increase because that leads to a decline in the per-unit output cost and above all a drop in the wage cost. Thus, the material, financial, and human resources saved can be used to provide new sources of employment or to resolve shortcomings in other activities with equal economic efficiency.

All of this is provided for under the current system of economic management and is combined with greater flexibility in the employment and utilization of manpower, where we harmonize the interest of society with that of each worker. We are advancing toward a system where manpower hiring must be handled through enterprise management without any middlemen and by the deadline necessary and where the worker will be hired according to his skills and will select the jobs and work places where he will have the greatest possibility of being efficient. In other words, we will do away with the rigidity which, for historical reasons, we have used in our manpower management, as well as centralized manpower job assignments, with the exception of certain skills where we have a shortage or certain highly-skilled workers--many of which are involved in providing community services.

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VIOLENCE AGAINST WOULD-BE EMIGRES DEPICTED

PA090226 Paris AFP in Spanish 2232 GMT 8 May 80

[Commentary by Alfredo Munoz Unsain]

[Excerpts] Havana, 8 May (AFP)--The Cuban capital has been experiencing a month of soaring street violence notably manifested in the throwing of tomatoes, eggs and even sticks at dissidents. To date this has left a total of two dead.

When police, rather scarce in Havana, show up on time, they try to end the violence by calling for moderation but rumor has it that a certain number of uniformed officers have been injured by the frenzied mobs which are constantly trying to attack those whom they consider "scum."

That term used in the official propaganda has been taken to brand the individuals who want to leave Cuba for whatever reason since the government decided to allow free exit through the port of Mariel, 40 km west of Havana.

Justifiably or not somebody accuses someone else, two or three people join him and in a matter of minutes a shrieking crowd of 50, 100 or 200 men, women and children rally in any street corner or along any thoroughfare. They immediately throw tomatoes, break eggs on the person's head--for months there has been a surplus production of agricultural produce in Cuba--and in the most dramatic cases sticks and stones rain on him if he dares to protest or defend himself.

The victim of the attack can either stoically weather the storm or flee in the almost hypothetical case of that automobile that might be going by and whose driver would agree to remove him from the premises.

In other cases, the police show up to protect the victim or the so-called "scum" hides away in his home which is almost worse because then he is besieged. In that case the objects are thrown at the building, injurious graffiti are scribbled on the walls and the mob shouts "faggot," "lesbian" or, if the demonstrations are more refined, "homosexual."

Through the incidents of street violence, a veritable runaway antigay campaign is gaining ground. This concerns officials who overtly or covertly are against it.

However, many of the rabble seem to revel in these actions and they are taking the opportunity to get out of work for the honorable purpose of showing their support for the government by shouting down those who are leaving Cuba.

The official public line is to let the repudiated "scum" who want to emigrate leave in peace and give them all sorts of facilities to go.

However, the demonstrators generally pay no mind to such urgings and vent their anger against more who up until yesterday--that is, until 4 April--were considered diligent, loyal and revolutionary officials in socialist Cuba.

For instance, that is the case of Carlos Berenguer, who until 3 April was a major leader of a state firm of the Transportation Ministry. The next day he joined 10,000 other people who broke into the Peruvian Embassy seeking to leave Cuba. Since he left the embassy with his passport and a permit to leave Cuba he has been besieged at home and his neighbors insult him day and night by means of loudspeakers. They have also cut off his electricity and his telephone, ignoring the urgings of the authorities who came to the scene to ask them to keep calm. Berenguer lives in the same neighborhood where First Vice President Raul Castro has his home but there are many other cases of besieged individuals in other sections of Havana. They are the people whom the man on the street has quickly labeled "covert cases" although in fact these specific cases have been "uncovered." The popular phrase implies that there may be other cases.

CSO: 3010

CHILD CARE CENTER FIRE BLAMED ON IMPERIALISM

FL091135 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 9 May 80

[Text] Following is a communique appearing in today's edition of GRANMA titled "A Sinister Fire and the People's Feat."

Yesterday at 1645 a big fire occurred at the (Levantado) Child Care Center in Marianao. The fire began in an inner floor [piso interior] of the 10-story building. The two elevators and the building's staircases were blocked by fire. About 570 children were trapped in the upper floors, 177 of them boarders, and many of the 156 center employees who were there at the time. At first the situation appeared very difficult. The rapid mobilization of the people, the fire trucks from several Havana units and the revolutionary police prevented a real catastrophe from occurring.

Hundreds of area residents came to support the firemen and the authorities. By means of fire ladders and other means organized by the residents to rescue the children, their evacuation from the upper floors was achieved in the midst of asphyxiating smoke and the danger that the flames would extend throughout the building. Arm in arm, with ropes around their waists and shoulders, hundreds of children were evacuated down the ladders without a single casualty.

There were not newsmen at the most dramatic and critical moment; there were no photographers to take pictures of that human miracle. The efficient work of our firemen aided by the people were able to check the spread of the fire and it was finally controlled. If this had not been done, it is estimated that more than 50 percent of the children would have died. It was really a feat on the part of our people, our combatant firemen and our policemen. It prevented what could have turned out to be a real tragedy.

The fire began in the building's auditorium on the ground floor. There was no activity going on at the time nor was any equipment on. According to the investigation, the flames began on the stage, where there were no electrical installations. All the experts of the Interior Ministry have reached the conclusion that the fire was intentional.

This hair-raising incident reminds us of the Couvre, the fire at the old Encanto and the Barbados sabotage. It was a coldly calculated, deliberate action. Everyone realizes the disastrous consequences that this action might have brought about, not only for the children in the care center, the biggest in the country, but also for the nation at large at a time when the people are very much angered by the provocations of the Peruvian Embassy, the incident at the yankee interests office and the death in El Cerro of a revolutionary mother and two persons injured as a result of a series of threatening and provoking actions against our fatherland. If this action had been successful, it could have caused a bloodbath in Cuba. In our opinion this diabolic action at this juncture could have had no other objective.

Behind these actions such as the Couvre, Encanto, Giron, Escambray and Barbados and many other crimes against our fatherland, the hand of imperialism and the CIA is undoubtedly present. But no one before had been capable of even conceiving this monstrous attempt to burn hundreds of children alive. It cannot be a coincidence that the day after the colossal 1 May popular rally, the provocation at the yankee interests office occurred, and that less than 24 hours after we showed on television the convincing videocassette on the event, the monstrous fire at the (Levantán) Child Care Center occurred.

The authors of these actions are the ones who later imperialism gives asylum to and protects and calls dissidents and politically persecuted. It even calls them heroes. Our people, however, once more has foiled their macabre plans. This forces us to be alert the width and breadth of the country for as long as the arduous battle we are waging lasts. Yesterday's fire was a huge, macabre, diabolic provocation. It was an unprecedented act of terror against our people. That is why the people must act with absolute serenity and calm as if in the middle of a war. We have to be more disciplined and serene than ever. After all, we are the veterans of 21 years of revolution. We cannot allow ourselves to be provoked, we cannot succumb to a saint Bartholomew's of Lumpen and antisocials like the enemy wants.

Desperate imperialism would prefer to see them buried here rather than taking refuge in Florida where we are sending them. The garbage can is over there, not here. Let us avoid at all costs staining with blood the glorious victories that we are obtaining. The enemy has little left to invent to avoid total defeat.

This concludes the communique that appeared this morning in GRANMA.

CSO: 3010

HIGH DIVORCE RATE PROBLEM ANALYZED BY OBSERVER

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 6 Apr 80 p 20-A

[Text] Havana, 5 April (EFE)--One of the most important problems in Cuban society today is the large number of divorces coming up each year; this results in a certain family imbalance.

Divorce has come to be a daily fact of life in Cuba and it is interesting to note that the youngest couples provide the highest percentage and that the most frequent causes leading to divorce are failure to take care of household chores, children, and husband by the wife who is involved in many activities, both concerning work and political and social activities.

Another factor to be considered is adultery which supposedly is due to the lack of attention by the particular spouse, lack of understanding or incompatibility of personalities; this is frequently a formal reason given in the divorce decree.

In 1979, Cuba had 1,295 divorces. The increase in separations in that country has been directly proportional to the economic independence achieved by women after the revolution of 1959.

The involvement of Cuban women in work, political, cultural, and social activities has increased year after year and all of this has had a noteworthy influence on the moment when the decision is made definitely to separate from the spouse.

Here above all it is important to note the economic aspect because women no longer depend on the husband, nor do they feel outcast in society because they are divorced.

Many Cuban women feel that the cause of their divorce is the "machista" attitude and they declare that their husbands constantly reproach them for working, studying, and not being at home.

The men on the other hand have the exact opposite comment on this phenomenon: "They want us to take care of household chores, to take care of the kids and they expect you to go around with a big smile on your face when they make

1,500, when they are all dressed up, and when they come back from their many political meetings."

Today, Cuban women in general think that the time is gone forever when it was they who had to wait for the husband to come home, to give them expense money, to take them to the movies, or to buy them new dresses.

5058

CSO:3010

STATE COMMITTEE SETS FORTH JOURNALISTS' WAGE SCALE

Havana TRABAJADORES in Spanish 29 Mar 80 p 2

[Text] The rise in the population's cultural level demands that information supplied through the media reveal the required quality. Since the printed press is a fundamental instrument in meeting this requirement, it is necessary to promote the constant development of newspaper techniques and, along with this, to perfect the wage organization for the technicians who work in the special field.

Consequently and on request of the competent entities, the State Labor and Social Security Committee and the National Union of Cultural Workers completed the studies which have been conducted regarding the evaluation of the work of the technical occupations involved in the newspaper field.

First of all, it is necessary to establish the following skill and wage categories for technical occupations listed below.

Occupational Title	Group	Monthly Wage	
		If all requirements met	If all requirements not met
Assistant press editor	III-II	166.00 pesos	138.00 pesos
"B" photo-reporter	III	166.00	---
Assistant foreign-language press editor	IV-III	192.00	163.00
"C" press editor	IV-III	192.00	163.00
"A" photo reporter	V	211.00	---
"C" foreign-language press editor	V-IV	211.00	192.00
"B" press editor	VI	231.00	---
"A" press editor	VII	250.00	---
"B" foreign-language press editor	VII	250.00	---
"A" foreign-language press editor	VIII	275.00	---

Second: For the occupations listed in the preceding paragraph, approve the description of the work content and the knowledge requirements listed in the annex to these regulations whose publication will be taken care of by the vice president in charge of the overall work organization and wage directorate; the original will be filed with the Labor Legislation Directorate of this State Committee on Labor and Social Security.

Third: The requirements for knowledge established for each of the occupations contained in the annex to these regulations shall serve as a basis for making the evaluation of the technical workers involved in newspaper activities in accordance with the provisions of articles 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 of Resolution 428, dated 14 March 1980, issued by the chairman of the State Committee on Labor and Social Security.

Fourth: The occupations listed in the first paragraph of these regulations and the skill categories corresponding to them will be used by printed press organs, news agencies, and radio and television news broadcasts.

Fifth: Raise increases resulting from the implementation of the provisions contained in these regulations will be absorbed by the wage fund planned for each entity.

Sixth: There is rescinded hereby Instruction No 55, dated 21 February 1966, issued by the Wage Directorate of the Former Ministry of Labor, under Chapter I, Paragraph 1, pertaining to the positions of "A" editor, "B" editor, "C" editor, editorial assistant and "A" reporter, "B" reporter, "C" reporter, "A" graphic reporter, "B" graphic reporter and headline writer; as well as Chapter II and Chapter IV.

Given in this city of Havana on 14 March 1980.

Francisco Penalver García, Vice Chairman.

5058
CSO:3010

CIVIL DEFENSE EXERCISE HELD AGAINST 'ENEMY ATTACK'

Havana VERDE OLIVO in Spanish 13 Apr 80 p 57

[Article by Jorge Luis Blanco: "A Safe Shelter"]

[Text] The wailing of a siren grates on the nerves. Men and women become alert. They are all workers who run to occupy their posts before a possible attack by the enemy on their work center.

It is simply a test exercise by Civil Defense in enterprises of the State Committee for Technical and Material Supply to show how a staff operates when it receives the order for full combat readiness.

In these cases they do not take up rifles nor do they wear tanker or pilot uniforms. Their mission is not fighting on the battlefield but the saving of the worker center and the life of those who achieve successes in production every day by every means.

"This is another success, you can write that down, because we have shown that we are well trained for war during peacetime," we were told by a worker with a fire extinguisher in his hands after participating in fighting a simulated fire in one of the warehouses of his work center.

Actually, now during peacetime, when the children can happily walk to school with their books under their arms, their parents devote several hours to train against any contingency imposed upon us by the imperialist enemy.

[Question] How have you trained?

"Well, look," says Margot Castillo, chief of the medical station, "for 15 days we have devoted a good part of the time to increasing our theoretical knowledge so as to know how to defend our economic objective in case of an attack. We are now having a practice and I think we have done well."

Has there been another experience of this type?

"No comrade, this is the first time that an exercise of this type has been held at our work center. Everyone was very excited, naturally, but there was determination to perform this task satisfactorily."

Everything is movement. At first sight it can be seen that each of the workers knows what he must do in case of aggression. Attention is drawn to a group of men who in a short time managed to evacuate tens of tons of various materials from the warehouses; or there are the women who now make up a first-aid detachment, solicitous and efficient in the care of those supposedly injured.

At the end there will be a critique and awards to the most outstanding; names will be mentioned: Zoila, Amor, Jose, Erasmo, Berto and many others.

And they will all return to jobs left vacant for some hours so that the economy can also have a safe shelter in case of war.

8908

CSO: 3010

CHEMICAL WARFARE DEFENSE EXERCISE HELD IN SMALL UNIT

Havana VERDE OLIVO in Spanish 20 Apr 80 p 40

[Article by Mario Rodriguez: "Rendezvous in the Field"]

[Text] Once more in the field so that as in other occasions maximum learning and training may be obtained.

The agenda stipulated in the training program moves forward and with it are consolidated the lessons acquired in each day of training.

Now, with the beginning of training ground exercises, the small chemical defense unit prepares to begin one of the most important operations in the training for the activities and procedures pertaining to that specialty.

The new training phase, together with the classes received previously, will serve to perfect habits and skills, an indispensable prerequisite for skillful action.

With the usual vigor, arrival at the assigned area is synonymous with the enthusiasm which materializes in the preparation to "get to the subject" as soon as possible.

In record time, the necessary conditions are ready for insuring living conditions and teaching activities: dormitories, work and recreation places cover the area, which until a short time ago was deserted.

The officers, sergeants and privates of this hard-working collective are ready to obtain the best results with the help of always valuable previous experience and the willingness which characterizes them even in the most difficult missions.

The awaited day arrives. The leader explains the objective of the first item to be carried out immediately.

With discipline, each member of that small unit goes into the tent used for checking the gas mask for leaks, from where they will go to the various areas of organized training.

From the area for special treatment of equipment and weapons, they go to that of detection of toxic substances, that of detection of radioactive substances, that of the preparation of gas decontamination solutions or to that of searching for radioactive or chemical substances.

The lens covers the events of this first day of activities with which the personnel of this small chemical defense unit begins training ground activities, the most important phase in the combat training for non-commissioned officers and privates in this specialty.

It is not the first time that the small chemical defense unit undertakes training tasks with real vigor.

Its members are aware that improvement of their training and skill is proportional with the quality of the learning process.

That is why this new "Rendezvous in the Field" has for them all the meaning of a real combat mission. Future success depends on the use they make of its lessons.

8908

CSO: 3010

AIR DEFENSE MISSILE UNIT BOLSTERED BY RECRUITS

Havana VERDE OLIVO in Spanish 13 Apr 80 pp 34-37

[Article by Mario Rodríguez: "On the Front Line"]

[Text] Since the first contingents of young recruit graduates from intermediate higher education arrived at this unit of antiaircraft missile troops, the work of the entire collective has undergone a leap in quality.

This can be seen in the results achieved since then.

It is enough to point out, to cite only a few examples, the first inspections made a short time afterward, the state of discipline and interior order, the most recent combat firing, in short, a substantial change in all aspects.

However, this is not all. The training process itself with its complexities because of the modern equipment with which these types of units are equipped, also received a significant improvement because of the presence of this new personnel capable of assimilating its most difficult procedures.

The new soldiers, received with true affection and fraternal spirit by all the members of the unit, have always had the encouragement of a warm fighting friendship as well as the experience and always timely instruction of their comrades in arms.

A Culminating Moment

To tell the truth, youth is synonymous with enthusiasm and daring.

Without enthusiasm, the plan is thwarted. Without daring, the simplest undertaking would seem impossible to accomplish. Skepticism is incompatible with youth, that is why the new soldiers, sure of success, devoted themselves fully to the attainment of the established objective.

Thus, after the inevitable process of adaptation to the first demands of military life, the young soldiers began their advance with firm and sure steps toward the acquisition of the necessary learning, giving of themselves the maximum in aptitudes and initiatives.

The training process, assimilated with relative ease, soon placed them in a condition of being able to carry out one of the most difficult tests in the learning of the complex combat equipment: the accomplishment of the first missile firing.

Certainly the most difficult mission was undertaken with vigor, with the assurance of one who is sure of his capabilities.

The combat alarm signals the beginning of the awaited moment. With the quickness of experts, the crews occupy their combat posts, after which they proceed to check the readiness of the equipment for performing its mission.

Meanwhile, at his operations post, the chief of the unit proceeds to the evaluation of the aerial situation, a very important element for the effective realization of firing.

It is a moment of extreme tension. On the precision with which action is taken and on meticulous combat work, depend the results of the launching.

With the designation of the target to be hit, the unit chief gives the pertinent orders to search for it.

The entire operation is carried out with extreme skill, particularly by the new soldiers, who act with the assurance and confidence of the more experienced.

Once the target is detected, its tracking is ordered, at the same time that the initial data are established for effecting the launching.

Instants later the laconic and vigorous order is heard: "Destroy it!"

The missiles leave their launching ramps at meteoric speeds, in search of the invader...

Tension of the first moments diminishes and there are expressions of joy, of uncontainable happiness, particularly by those who only a few months ago became part of this great family.

The target, hit squarely, makes possible the classification of "Outstanding."

It was a reward for the efforts of all: chiefs, officers and soldiers, the practical confirmation that they are ready to advance with certainty and firm steps toward the consolidation of the successes achieved.

A Worthy Opinion

In a brief exchange of opinions with the chief of the unit, he explained to us how the presence of the new soldiers, most of whom come from the preuniversity schools and technological institutes, have largely contributed to the results achieved.

He points out the quickness with which the new soldiers have been able to adapt to the medium, the skill with which they answer the most difficult and complex questions in the classes given to them and the maturity they demonstrate when they undertake various tasks...

"There is no doubt that the work of these comrades has been decisive in the attainment of our successes," he says.

"From the first moment we were able to confirm their willingness and real capabilities for going through the training period without any difficulty. Moreover, and this is very important, they have had a positive influence on the rest of the soldiers because of their conduct."

The officer refers to the last inspections made of the unit by the higher command and in which the results were satisfactory.

"With all fairness," he adds, "I must say that they have had a decisive participation in these results. It is of no use for the leadership to take pertinent measures, for the officers to be duly trained, if the mass of soldiers is not trained in basic tasks and is not capable of performing them with the quality required."

With respect to the training of commanders and officers as those mainly responsible for the education and training of the soldiers, Major Martinez emphasizes their importance when he says:

"This is an aspect we have never neglected, particularly at this time when the mass of soldiers we have has a good level of knowledge because of having gone through intermediate higher education.

"This situation, of course, requires that we the commanders and officers have greater skill in the training process, which can only be obtained when one has a proper training and the perfect knowledge of the essential points of military instruction and psychology."

[Question] And what can you tell us about discipline?

"I must point out that since the arrival of these comrades in the unit, the disciplinary aspect has been invigorated. Moreover, and this is important, it has had an influence on the rest of the personnel.

"I believe that it is also due to the good political training of these young men, who in a considerable percentage are members of the Union of Young Communists.

Bonds of Camaraderie

Military life is for our youth an unsurpassed opportunity for molding their character and at the same time a chance to be useful in an area as important as defense.

It is obvious that combative activity requires strictness, discipline, daily effort, but it also lays lifelong foundations of camaraderie and sincere friendship.

Whoever has carried out a good part of his activities in a military collective cannot be aloof to the bonds of real fighting solidarity rooted in the heart and actions of every military man.

In all those who strive for a common goal, there is a seed of indestructible, spontaneous and unrestricted friendship.

The following is the case of Jorge Felix Echemendia Rodriguez, Raul Maldonado Polanco, Basilio Broceta Rodriguez, and many others.

Jorge Felix and Basilio Broceta arrived at the inevitable moment of farewell. Both must leave this family group, which has accepted them for 2 years and in which they have learned that which is necessary for the life and profession of arms.

Now for both there can be seen a new, much desired future: the initiation of higher studies, fulfilling an old hope.

Echemendia believes that having obtained this incentive of being demobilized is simply the result of "having always carried out orders."

"I have done nothing more than do my duty," he says, "improve myself as much as possible, observe discipline strictly and, of course, always try to obtain the best ratings."

On the time he spent in the Revolutionary Armed Forces [FAR] he says:

"My stay in the FAR has helped me to mature in all respects. Now I am capable of facing life with greater determination, at the same time that I have become aware of my ability to act under various situations.

"I must also emphasize that I have learned to share with my comrades, to see in the collective an important element for the solution of all problems. That is why I am going to be very sorry to leave."

The words of Jorge Felix Echemendia are filled with the sincerity of a young man who knows how to evaluate realities in all their scope, with the honesty of a real communist militant.

Sergeant Third Class Basilio Broceta enjoys the respect and affection of all his comrades.

His outstanding attitude in performing the various tasks, as well as his combativity and prestige before the collective, caused him to be elected by the mass of soldiers as the delegate from the special district to the People's Government.

This 25-year-old youth, member of the UJC, is one of these comrades who are always used as a reference to exemplify good conduct, exemplary attitude and love of work.

One of his basic attributes is precisely that of being a very approachable person, extremely friendly but at the same time demanding and a faithful performer of his duties.

"I have always told my comrades," he says, "that friendship ceases when performance of duty begins.

"Discipline plays an important role in our branch because personnel actions require great precision."

[Question] What do you think about the importance of combat alert?

[Answer] "Combat alert for units of this type is of primary importance. We are like the one who is in the front combat line and for that reason there cannot be the slightest slackening.

"In our case, for example, if we do not place the missile on the ramp as it should be, and if we do not make the required checks, the shot may prove to be a failure. That is why any precaution that may be taken is always justified."

Basilio, despite having been demobilized already, agreed to remain a few days longer in the unit until the comrade who was supposed to replace him in his combat post returns from a pass.

"The comrade had a delicate family problem and it was not fair that because there was no one to take his place he could not go see his family.

"That is why as soon as I learned of the case I went to see him and told him: 'Resolve your problem, I will stay here in the meantime.' " That is the way Basilio is. For him, as well as for most of his comrades of this collective, the problem of one is the problem of all.

[Question] And what do you think, Maldonado?

The young soldier smiles slightly as he answers:

"What Felix and Basilio have said is very true. I do not think I can add more. What I would like for you to consider is that we comrades, who remain here because of term of service has not yet expired, will try to follow the example of all of them and many others who with their attitude have earned this incentive.

"Our duty is to continue to improve ourselves from all points of view; to be better every day.

"It is true that this new recruiting policy benefits us greatly but our actions should be blameless, not only because of it but also because we see in it the way every revolutionary youth should act."

They, like other soldiers of other units, fulfill the sacred mission of defending the socialist fatherland with exemplariness.

Time will pass and other contingents of young men will arrive wanting to fulfill this important task, synonymous with honor, responsibility and sacrifice.

After Echemendia, Maldonado and Bruceta will come others ready to learn as they did, the valuable lessons a military life which is demanding but at the same time filled with examples of modesty, self-sacrifice, spirit of camaraderie and combative unity to be followed.

8908

CSO: 3010

AGE LIMIT INCREASED TO 30 IN YOUNG COMMUNISTS UNION

Havana JUVENTUD REBELDE in Spanish 6 Apr 80 p 8

[Text] The extension to 30 years of the age for remaining eligible for membership in the Union of Young Communists [UJC] was the most important agreement of the Eighth Plenary Meeting of the organization held yesterday at the Julio A. Mella National Cadre School in East Havana. Luis O. Dominguez, member of the party central committee and first secretary of the UJC, presided over the meeting.

The meeting analyzed the work accomplished by its national bureau and the organization during 1979 in profound, critical discussions.

The agenda also dealt with the movement of actual and alternate cadres of the National Committee, the management of the budget used last year and the one approved for 1980, as well as matters having to do with the Movement of Candidates Toward the Banner of Honor.

It also dealt with the process of intensification of revolutionary awareness being effected in the higher education centers of the country, among other questions.

Positive Work

The work of the National Bureau and its auxiliary organization was considered positive during the period analyzed and the plenary meeting acknowledged the profound critical spirit of the analysis.

In turn, the meeting considered the phase just completed as being an important landmark in activities undertaken by the UJC in support of the party in the struggle to obtain a more demanding outlook with respect to negligence and errors and in the battle for combativity and struggle against things poorly done, complementing commitments acquired with Fidel in the previous plenary meeting.

The document stated that UJC financial work required greater attention during the time analyzed and it was announced that it is foreseen that other problems and difficulties will be faced this year that will require greater attention so as to be able to exercise a greater control over the budget and achieve greater economic discipline. At the same time, the savings plan will be strengthened and the revenue plan must be inflexibly complied with.

The work of the National Review Committee was considered a rich and new experience, allowing compliance with the agreements of the Third Congress for managing the control and supervision of some aspects of work of the organisms, cadres and members with practical measures, and it will allow undertaking new and more complex tasks.

Membership Up to 30 Years of Age

The Eighth Plenary Meeting agreed to put into effect immediately the raising of the age for joining the UJC to 27 years, and the age for remaining in the UJC up to 30 years. It will be in effect provisionally until it is ratified by the Fourth UJC Congress.

This resolution, to be completely published soon, will be subjected to analysis, together with the Final Resolution of the Eighth Plenary Meeting, in the rank and file organizations and organisms of the UJC during April and May and may be made effective as of now.

The approved resolution says: "The historical experience of the UJC demonstrates that for various reasons there were members of 30 years of age and even older, and this generally was never a reason for concern, disagreement or inadaptation by the members who found themselves in that situation. Figures confirm that at this time more than 50 percent of the young workers and laborers are concentrated in the age group above 24 years. Because of the natural process of acquisition of experience, qualifications, mastery and skill in each job, the youths acquired greater stability as workers precisely when they reach the age limit for processing into the UJC. The extension of the age limits for joining and remaining in the UJC will considerably expand the world of young workers, particularly laborers, with whom it will be possible to effect growth, and as a result, increase labor representation as the main detachment of the UJC without necessarily having to sacrifice possible growth in other categories.

More Quality in Student Ranks

It was agreed to continue with the process of increasing revolutionary awareness and increasing the combativity of university students, with a high sense of justice and educational character, and with the same characteristics employed up to now, without giving up an iota of ground to the positions of the enemy, to softness or to tolerance, demonstrating a high revolutionary spirit of loyalty to the party and the working class.

Cadre Movement

Roberto Hidalgo Linares, who was chairman of the Inspection and Review Committee of the National Committee and at the same time member of its Bureau, was promoted because of his attributes and experience so that he may perform important missions abroad.

Luis Miyares Gomez was appointed to replace him. He was the chief of the UJC National Committee Department of Organization.

Also becoming members of this organism were Rosa Maria Quevedo Diaz, Felicia Machado Carrillo, Francisco la Rosa Rodriguez and Humberto Milian Bermudez, by reason of their attributes and because of practical requirements.

After approval of the evaluations of all the members of the National Committee, the Eighth Plenary Meeting agreed to elect Carlos Lage Davila as second secretary of the UJC National Committee because of his qualities, merits and prospects. He is now member of the National Bureau and is performing an internationalist mission.

The National Bureau also promoted comrades Conrado Martinez Corona, Omar Cruz Garcia, Jorge Jorge Valdes, Mariela Colombia Santana and Manuel Estevez Alvarez. The latter will act as chairman of the Pioneer Organization.

As actual and alternate members, the following were approved: Luis Acosta Banos, Manuel R. Barroso Cuellar, Ramon Carrasana Prieto, Javier E. Hernandez Gonzalez, Angela Meyea Brana, Jesus Rodriguez Diaz, Juan Carlos Serrano Chacon and Victoria Elvira Torres Moreno.

The meeting also expressed its acknowledgement of a group of youth leaders who are going on to perform tasks in the party. They are outgoing members of the UJC National Committee and Bureau as follows: Francisco Garcia Ferrer, Clara Toledo Martinez, Juan Mok Marin, Yurina Cabalo Tudela and Renier Perez.

The acknowledgement states that these cadres devoted the early years of their youth to the organization to which they gave all their efforts. It congratulated them warmly, wishing them new successes.

Farewells were also said to actual and alternate members of the National Committee who are leaving to perform other tasks. They are: Adalberto Llanes, Antonio Rancel, Santiago Gener Diepa, Ramon A. Ross Cruz, Miguel Marcheco Consuegra, Elizabetho Azopardo Nunez and Alejandra Font Escusa.

Amid great applause, the 14 provinces, the special municipality of the Isle of Youth, the UJC in the Revolutionary Armed Forces (FAR) and the Ministry of Interior, received the awards and acknowledgement granted to them for their meritorious work during the 20th Year of the Victory.

With respect to decorations and honorary awards, it was reported that the Council of State has approved the institution of the Julio Antonio Mella Order, which will be awarded by that body on the recommendation of the UJC to those comrades who are outstanding in work, defense or in internationalist missions.

The Jose Antonio Echeverria Medal is also created. It will be awarded to those who are very outstanding in studies. Also created was the Abel Santamaria Medal, created to reward comrades with exceptional attributes in their revolutionary actions.

Final Resolution

The Eighth UJC National Committee Plenary Meeting made an analysis of the work performed during 1979 and it arrived at a number of important decisions with respect to the style and methods to be applied in the work of the organization.

The final resolution considers that work has been performed systematically for compliance with the Principal Directives for the period between January 1979 and April 1982 and that said document remains fully current.

The document approved by the Plenary Meeting synthesizes in five overall outlines the objectives for which the organization exists and for which it will play the role pertaining to it in the practical application of the policy established by the party.

One of the points of general scope states that rank and file organizations "must discover and face the problems that must be resolved with initiative and effectiveness." Another of the tasks of overall scope calls for the "assurance of an efficient integral work of molding the pioneers so that they will become acquainted with moral values." In that part of the document it is also reiterated that there must be an increase in the level of ideological struggle within the organization and an increase "of the quality of work with the masses, marshalling them for activities or tasks required with effective and persuasive methods."

To promote the use of these general guidelines, the Plenary Meeting described 19 tasks with greater clarity, with the objective that they be given the maximum priority during the course of this year "above any other which circumstantially may appear more important or urgent."

In one of these tasks, the resolution calls for "insuring that the leadership bodies teach the rank and file organizations to base their specific work capabilities on their circumstances, their level of development and the general objectives of the UJC," and "to insure in practical life that the reason for being of a collective of young communists, which is to guarantee the objectives the revolution has established in each specific center, be the basis of all its activity."

In another chapter of the document approved by the plenary meeting, the members are urged to constantly increase their level of political information and their knowledge of Marxist-Leninist theory, and it urges the members to cultivate the reading of the press as a habit inherent in the militant and "to make use of information provided by radio and television, the study of the materials of the Study Clubs and Student Plenary Meetings."

The text also advocates a continuing advance in the creation of an economic mentality in our cadres and "the guarantee that together with the political evaluation of the results of each activity there will also be incorporated an analysis from the economic point of view." It also urges "the advance in the establishment of norms in consumption and the maximum savings possible in material resources."

The resolution emphasizes the maintenance of "vigilance and surveillance for the outstanding performance of their basic duties by members, as well as on their personal combativity toward things poorly done."

Finally, the final resolution of the plenary meeting "urges all young communists to make the maximum effort to hail the Second Party Congress with new victories in the construction of socialism."

8908

CSO: 3010

BRIEFS

CUBATUR TOURIST AGENTS CONVENTION--Publicizing what Cuba has to offer regarding international tourism and promoting the establishment of trade relations and work contacts between travel agents and tourist officials are some of the main objectives of the First Travel Convention of the CUBATUR Enterprise to be held in Havana between 2 and 7 June. The exchange of experiences through contacts between tourist industry workers from five continents is another one of the aspects to be taken up at this meeting which will be held in this capital's Convention Palace and which will also be attended by airline and shipping line representatives. CUBATUR General Manager Jesus Jimenez during a press conference announced that various organizations will participate in order to develop this activity, such as the Chamber of Commerce of Cuba, CUBAEXPORT, the Ministry of Culture, and the representatives of commercial airlines accredited in Cuba. He also said that plans are being made to hold conventions of this kind in Cuba each year; he added that they must become an important activity in the area of the Caribbean. Jimenez also announced that a catalogue will be published for travel agents and tourist operators abroad, containing information on Cuba's tourist offers, facilities for travel, and other data of interest to visitors. [Text] [Havana TRABAJADORES in Spanish 27 Mar 80 p 3] 5058

MOA CONSTRUCTION TIMETABLE ANALYZED--Moa--Jose A. Lopez Moreno, vice president of the Council of Ministers and minister of construction, presided over a meeting here which analyzed the implementation timetable for important investment projects to be built in this area of mining and metallurgical development. The review covered the results of the first quarter of the year regarding the construction of the new nickel plant, the machine-building combine, and related projects, such as the Nuevo Mundo Dam and the Levisa--Moa 220-kilowatt power line. Looking at the first of these projects, the nickel plant, civil engineering construction has been completed to the extent of 74%, assembly was finished 14%, while the concrete output volumes came to 82, the metal structure output to 45, and the technological equipment output to 53 [percent]. The value of construction work on the machine-building combine completed during that period of time was in excess of 200,000 pesos, equivalent to 4 percent of the annual plan. Regarding the Nuevo Mundo Dam, it was announced that, as of 31 March,

work worth 23 percent of the planned volume for 1980 had been done. The need was stressed for stepping up the implementation pace at these projects which so far are behind schedule in order to make sure that the goals proposed for the Year of the Second Party Congress will be attained. On the other hand, during a plenum held in this town, the construction workers at Moa pledged to create values of 41 million pesos as a worth way to hail the great event of the Cuban communists. [Text] [Havana JUVENTUD REBELDE in Spanish 6 Apr 80 p 1] 5058

PEREZ DISCUSSES ECONOMY--Humberto Perez, member of the PCC Central Committee and vice president of the Council of Ministers, has called for working with the highest efficiency in the use of resources during the second assessment meeting of the tasks of the system of management and planning of the economy which was held in Havana. The also minister-president of the Central Planning Board stated that this assessment resulted in a greater degree of analysis and deepening, and that progress in the discussions and in the expansion of the system of management planning of the economy in Havana had been noted. Likewise, he stated that setbacks were manifested in some areas, which will require an extraordinary effort beginning now and until the year's end to arrive to the second PCC congress with the expansion of the fundamental elements of the system fulfilled by 100 percent or as close to that as possible. [Text] [FL071458 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1400 GMT 7 May 80]

MIRET IN CAMAGUEY--Party Politburo member Pedro Miret Prieto has visited Camaguey Province. During his tour, he was interested in the completion and putting into operation of the dairy complex in Camaguey. He also visited the construction site of the Higher Institute of Medical Sciences and the recently inaugurated hotel in Florida. Miret was accompanied on his tour by Lazaro Vasquez Garcia, first secretary of the Camaguey Provincial Party Committee. [Text] [FL072321 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 7 May 80 FL]

NEW SPANISH-BUILT FREIGHTER--The ship "Palma Mocha" is in the Havana harbor. It is operated by the Mambisa Navigation Enterprise. The ship is the third of four built in Spain for the Cuban Government. It is a very modern freighter measuring 149 meters long and 20 meters wide with a displacement of 15,240 tons. It is totally automated and requires a crew of only 28. The ship has modern navigation equipment such as two radars and satellite navigation equipment. Its speed is in the range of 14.5 to 14.6 knots. [FL070052 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 7 May 80]

KONOTOP-GROBART TALKS--Havana (AIN)--Fabio Grobart, a member of the party Central Committee and president of the Institute of the History of the Communist Movement and of the Cuban Socialist Revolution, yesterday received Vasily I. Konotop, first secretary of the Moscow Oblast CPSU [Communist Party of the Soviet Union] Committee and USSR Supreme Soviet. The two leaders held a cordial and friendly meeting in which they exchanged views and mutual experiences concerning the work being done in Cuba and in the Soviet Union on the revolutionary history of the brother peoples. [Text] [Havana GRANMA in Spanish 27 Mar 80 p 3] 8735

YEMENITE DELEGATION--Havana (AIN)--A delegation of the People's Defense Committees from the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen headed by Ahmen Hamid Mulhi, a member of the Central Committee of the Yemenite Socialist Party and coordinator of the CDP [People's Defense Committees], returned to their country yesterday. Seeing them off at the airport were Armando Acosta, a member of our party's Central Committee and national coordinator of the CDR, and officials of the Yemenite diplomatic mission in Cuba. [Text] [Havana GRANMA in Spanish 18 Mar 80 p 3] 8735

SWAPO DELEGATION--A delegation from the Southwest African People's Organization (SWAPO) was received yesterday afternoon at the headquarters of the Institute of Friendship With the Peoples (ICAP) by Rene Rodriguez, president of that organization and a deputy to the National Assembly. The Namibian delegation is composed of Riundjwa Kaakunga, a member of the Central Committee's Political Bureau and SWAPO secretary for administrative affairs, and Linekela Kalenga, a member of the Central Committee and secretary of education and culture. Also attending the meeting were Mario Rodriguez, vice president of ICAP, and Heriberto Feraudi, chief of the Africa Department of that organization. [Text] [Havana GRANMA in Spanish 18 Mar 80 p 3] 8735

CSO: 3010

PAPER COMMENTS ON CUBAN REFUGEES

San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 9 Apr 80 p 7

[Editorial: "Extraordinary Case of the Right to Asylum"]

[Text] The most extraordinary case of political asylum ever seen on this continent and perhaps anywhere else is now taking place in the capital of Cuba.

International press agencies report that 10,000 Cubans, men, women and children alike, are seeking diplomatic asylum at the Peruvian Embassy in Havana. The right to asylum is a recourse which has been taken by all those who have felt themselves to be the victims of persecution or have had reason to believe that their lives were in danger, since time immemorial. In this case it seems that the 10,000 Cubans want to escape from their homeland, where they do not feel safe.

Some cases of asylum have attracted world attention. In Peru itself there was a famous case when political leader Raul Haya de la Torre sought asylum at the Colombian Embassy. He was kept there and given asylum for several years. Now Peru is once more in the limelight because of the human avalanche that has invaded the grounds of its diplomatic mission in Havana.

The 10,000 Cubans now being granted asylum at the Peruvian Embassy in the Cuban capital are noteworthy for several reasons. One, because of their large number, and the fact that they acted almost simultaneously. Two, because of their significance in terms of the popularity of the Castro regime, which has governed Cuba for more than 20 years. Three, because they present a challenge to Latin American solidarity with regard to the placement of the refugees who want to leave Cuba. Those 10,000 Cubans have dealt a severe blow to the Castro regime, but above all they are, or should be, a problem of humanitarianism that must be solved soon. The danger stems not only from Castro's army, but also from the enemy common to all people: disease and hunger.

The member states of the Andean Pact, Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Bolivia, are now dealing with the case on an emergency basis. It is possible that all of them will be able to take in the refugees from the Peruvian Embassy in Havana. As far as the political interpretations and repercussions are concerned, those 10,000 Cubans are 10,000 arguments about the situations that can occur under the Socialist regime in Cuba.

JUNTA MODIFIES INCOME TAX LAW

San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 10 Apr 80 pp 3, 33

[Text] By means of Decree No 74, the Revolutionary Government Junta suspended the enforcement of the final paragraph of Article 1 of the Income Tax Law.

The provisions created a new tax liability by linking several corporations whose capital stock consisted of at least 51 percent common stockholder ownership.

This new suspension will allow many corporations to turn in their tax statements during the normal period.

The above-mentioned decree states:

"Decree No 74. The Revolutionary Government Junta;

"I. Whereas, Decree No 73 of the Revolutionary Government Junta, dated 20 December 1979, published in Official Gazette No 237, Volume 265, of that same date, established in Article 1 a new Income Tax liability which consisted of the linking of several corporations, 51 percent or more of the capital stock of which was owned by common stockholders, meaning that a single tax statement must be presented in the name of all stockholders and that profits would be taxed as a whole; and

"II. Whereas, the immediate enforcement of that provision under the present circumstances would make it difficult to comply with all the resulting obligations imposed on the new taxpayer, and therefore would mean a delay in submitting tax returns;

Therefore, in accordance with the legislative powers conferred by Decree No 1 of 15 October 1979, published in the Official Gazette No 191, Volume 265 of that same date, hereby decrees:

"Article 1. Enforcement of the obligations established in the final paragraph of Article 1 of the Income Tax Law shall be suspended for all those corporations who meet the above-mentioned requisites, and whose tax year ended on 31 December 1979, and for the others whose tax years end between that date

and 30 December of this year; consequently, each one of those corporations is obligated to submit its tax statements during the period which normally corresponds to it, and to pay the tax computed.

"Article 2. This Decree shall come into effect the day it is published in the Official Gazette.

"Given in the Casa Presidencial, San Salvador, the nineteenth day of March, nineteen hundred eighty.

"Col Adolfo Arnaldo Majano Ramos, Col Jaime Abdul Gutierrez, Dr Jose Antonio Morales Ehrlich, Dr Jose Ramon Avalos Navarrete, Dr Roberto Alvergue Vides, Minister of Finance, San Salvador, 9 April 1980."

8926

CSO: 3010

UNIVERSITY PROTECTS VIOLATIONS OF CAMPUS

PA060430 San Salvador LA CRONICA DEL PUEBLO in Spanish 5 May 80 p 2

[Text] "It is significant that, in the escalation of repression and murder besetting El Salvador, the assassins of the people have not been content with sowing bodies all over our highways, streets, lakes, and fields. Now they are soiling with their bloody deeds the campus of the University of El Salvador," according to a bulletin issued by the University of El Salvador.

It adds that since the beginning of this year four bodies have been left in the university campus. "This number, however, has been doubled in the past 2 days (28 and 29 April) when workers and students found the body of a young man on 28 April, on 29 April found three bodies scattered on the sports fields north of the university campus."

The communique adds: "We ask the parties responsible for this blood orgy unleashed against a defenseless people, not to commit more mass murders throughout the nation or provocations against the University of El Salvador. Our school is engaged in teaching and is not a cemetery.

"The university and its officials regard this situation as one more provocation by the enemies of education, science, and culture, who are not content with threatening our alma mater in every sense. Now they are resorting to sowing terror and fear, leaving bodies as a warning of what they are ready to do with the university community.

In conclusion we tell the Salvadoran people who are struggling for their liberation that we are committed to them and that we identify ourselves with the pain, misery, and exploitation they are suffering today."

CSO: 3010

GOVERNMENT WORKS TO WIN POLITICAL BATTLE

PA060035 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 1900 GMT 3 May 80

[Text] There is more violence in other countries; but the trouble is that some international news agencies view the situation in El Salvador in a biased or distorted fashion, government sources said during a news conference.

Some of these comments on the national problems were published by our morning papers. They noted at the same time that the armed forces have maintained a calm position in the face of provocations by the extremists.

It was explained that the armed forces have tried to keep their actions to a minimum to reduce the number of victims from clashes because the government is not responding with the same intensity of the violence unleashed against it. The same government sources said it is better to win a political battle than a military one.

The government's objective is to convince those who have chosen the wrong way that it is better to make use of understanding, prudence and common sense since the changes for which they have long struggled are in the process of becoming a reality.

The official sources added that political violence stirred by the leftwing and rightwing extremists is being taken advantage of by common criminals. Many of the casualties in armed clashes have actually been the victims of common criminals.

CS0: 3010

FDR, CRM SALUTE LABOR'S STRUGGLE FOR 'FREEDOM'

PA011518 San Salvador API News in Spanish [undated] Volume 2, No 69, 1980
pp 776, 777

[Excerpts] San Salvador, 30 Apr (API)--The Democratic Revolutionary Front (FDR) and the Revolutionary Coordinating Board of the Masses [CRM] have prepared a vast program of mass activities in which the entire Salvadoran population is invited to participate in order to celebrate 1 May, international labor day, in a fitting manner throughout the country.

It has been reported that the chief objectives of the celebration will be to highlight, in the first place, "the heroic victories of all fraternal peoples of the world who, now free from the colonialist and imperialist yoke, salute this memorable event by building or consolidating a new society." Secondly, they "salute with revolutionary cheerfulness the workers of all countries and most particularly the powerful Salvadoran worker and peasant movement, pioneer of freedom and leading force in this struggle of the fatherland for its final liberation."

This Will Be An Exemplary Drive

In conclusion, the FDR, on its own behalf and that of the CRM, in a supportive mood on the arrival of a new 1 May anniversary, expresses its absolute conviction that the Salvadoran people will know how to turn this internationalist day into an exemplary drive which will fully confirm the resplendent proximity of our freedom.

"The tree of peoples victory is growing in the heart of our people like a tree planted near a river."

CSO: 3010

KIDNAPPER SAYS CONSTITUTION VIOLATED BY IMPRISONMENTS

PA042230 Tegucigalpa Radio America in Spanish 1850 GMT 3 May 80

[Distributed by Inter-Central American Radio Organization]

[Text] Our present situation is the result of a plot by the army and the transnational Texaco Caribbean Inc. Company aimed at justifying the 20 April election defeat by a party [sentence as heard]. This statement was made by Dr Jose Maria Reyes Mata, one of the nine persons charged by the authorities with the kidnapping of the transnational's manager, Arnold Quiroz. They have also been charged with threatening the security of the state, among other things.

Dr Reyes made these statements a few moments after having stepped out of the office of criminal court justice Mario Adelmo Tinoco when he was allowed to talk with his mother, Mrs Mercedes Reyes, who was in the hall.

Reyes Mata and Wilfredo Gallardo were brought from prison to the court a few minutes after 1700. The other accused persons, Mrs Teresa Reyes Mata, Eduardo Barrios, Felipe Espino, Benjamin Reyes, Rene (Bulner), Carlos Alvarenga and Idelfonso Paz Munoz--a minor--were not seen by their relatives, who stayed in front of the building the entire day.

The military and the transnational have always been interested in finding a scapegoat to justify their ambitions. They have been able to build up this plot against us. The results of this plot have been made known to the people by you, journalists. These statements were made calmly by Reyes Mata.

He said that while the constitution of the republic establishes that no citizen can be kept incommunicado for more than 24 hours, or under arrest for more than 6 days without rational evidence of guilt, we have been held strictly incommunicado for the past 18 days simply because the police ordered it.

When Reyes was asked if it is true that they have been taken from prison to unknown locations to be questioned, he gave a categorical yes and added that the circumstances are similar to those he faced in Tegucigalpa from the very moment he was arrested.

According to Dr Reyes he does not know if the charges he is facing are the same charges filed against the other arrested persons. He is being charged with kidnap, threatening the security of the state, illegal possession of arms and with trying to produce instability in the country.

Despite this, he notes, neither the army nor the public security forces--no one--has been able to produce any evidence and I doubt they can do it because as I have said this is a plot for which they needed scapegoats and they chose us.

It was unofficially reported last night that the other accused persons, including Teresa--Dr Reyes Mata's wife--will testify either today, Saturday, or Monday. This, however, has not been confirmed because of Judge Tinoco's silence.

In the particular case of Reyes Mata, Inter-Central American Radio reporters have been informed that his brother and sister, medical student Marcelino Reyes and Melba Reyes, are being sought by agents of the national investigations directorate of Tegucigalpa.

At 2230, the parents, wives, brothers and children of the accused were still in front of the court building.

CSO: 3010

PROFESSORS ASSOCIATION DEMANDS END TO REPRESSION

PA071958 San Pedro SULA TIEMPO in Spanish 25 Apr 80 p 41

[Paid Advertisement of the Association of Professors of the University General Studies Center]

[Text] To the university community and the Honduran people:

Through this communique, the board of directors of the Association of Professors of the University General Studies Center [Asociacion de Profesores del Central Universitario de Estudios Generales--APECUEG] makes known to the university community, the Honduran people and international public opinion the following events:

1. In view of the abstention of democratic and popular sectors of Honduras in the electoral process, the ruling groups have unleashed a repressive anti-popular operation of truly alarming dimensions.
2. The victory of the Liberal Party means the beginning of a developmental [desarrollista] policy which will be accompanied by a heavy repression against the country's revolutionary sectors. That proimperialist policy in no way serves the national interests of the Honduran popular classes. On the contrary, it will further tie the nation's self-determination to the U.S. State Department decision center.
3. There is an open plot between the cliques of the traditional parties to "stop the violence" by unleashing armed violence against the people instead of by issuing socioeconomic measures that the working masses are demanding.
4. Clear proof of the repressive plans of the oligarchy is the recent imprisonment of companeros Dr Jose Maria Reyes Mata and his wife, Teresa Gonzalez, Rene Bulnes, Wilfredo Gallardo, Catalina Garcia, Eduardo Barrios, Nubia Baquero, Leonor Meza, Idelfonso Paz and Jose Bonifacio Sanchez. These companeros were arrested by national security agents and they are being held in the cells of the Department of National Investigation (DIN) without knowing the legal reasons for their arrest.

In view of the aforementioned, the APECUEG demands from the military government junta:

1. The immediate release of all political prisoners and people who are politically persecuted as a result of the wave of repression unleashed by the military regime.
2. An end to the persecution of companera Melba Reyes and her family who are cruelly persecuted by national investigations agents.
3. An end to the repression of peasant and worker sectors which during the past few months have been victims of all kinds of abuses by the ultrareactionary oligarchy; that mismanages Honduras.
4. An immediate solution of the problems of unemployment, high cost of living, housing, lack of land and the terrible administrative corruption which most of the Honduran people are suffering.
5. The immediate release of the companeros Dr Jose Maria Reyes Mata, Teresa Gonzalez, Rene Bulnes (prisoner in cell no. 2 of the DIN), Wilfredo Gallardo (who is supposedly missing), Catalina Garcia, Eduardo Barrios, Nubia Baquero, Leonor Meza, Idelfonso Paz and Bonifacio Sanchez.

An end to the repressive military operation against the people!

We demand that the human rights of the Honduras be respected!

[signed] The Board of Directors of the APECUEG.

CSO: 3010

GOVERNMENT ACKNOWLEDGES RIGHT OF DISSENT

PA062201 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 6 May 80

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpt] Every public administration is exposed to criticism, which is appropriate and healthy when it is exercised in a constructive spirit. The rulers themselves must follow this criticism closely and sample it constantly because it is the best guide to correctly establishing the conduct of the administration toward the most important objectives demanded by the people.

If there is anything which the military government has raised to top priority, it has been precisely its willingness to talk, its policy of tolerance for every opinion and its unchanging identification with the aspirations and needs of the people.

No one can deny that in our country we are now practicing the broadest freedom of expression ever and that in the newspapers and public parks the people say what they please, even though sometimes there are outbursts with disruptive purposes. And no one should be surprised that one of the most often chosen targets of destructive criticism is the government or its most visible representatives. In this case, when the attacks are directed toward the public administration, the government cannot waste its time in polemics and must not resort to the previously often used recourse of silencing the protests by force, that is, by gagging the right to dissent.

This explains the purpose of the dissemination of the government's accomplishments, to inform the people of what their taxes are used for and to demonstrate, without pompous adjectives or inflamed sectarianism, that intensive work has been performed for the common welfare and that the statistics continue to be the best proof to explain distortions and to fill the silences and vacuums left by those who are dedicated solely to exaggerating presumed errors and to ignoring the many good works and accomplishments of the administration.

The distorting noise of the critics cannot prevent the acceptance and truth of the figures which we have already published on different armed forces government actions and activities.

RAMIREZ ON REVOLUTION, LITERACY CAMPAIGN

Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 24 Mar 80 p 5

[Speech by Sergio Ramirez, member of the National Reconstruction Government Junta at a ceremony at the plaza in Managua on 23 March 1980]

[Text] The primer is the expression of militant Sandinism. We are struggling for a democracy from below and not an electoral one.

We are going to bury oppression and injustice. A primer without such words as people, struggle, liberation, revolution, Carlos Fonseca, Sandino and Sandinist Front would be for the purpose of continuing to manipulate the people for ideological ends.

Speech by Comrade Sergio Ramirez, member of the Government Junta at yesterday's ceremony:

Comrades, brothers:

Every time that the revolution has called the Nicaraguans to this plaza, every time that this plaza has been filled, those who fear the Revolution, those who shake with rage at the Revolution, those who do not even want the word Revolution mentioned, know that from here, from this plaza, our people are setting out on a new course, are moving down the road, are adding a new stone to the structure of their history, are brightening the future with a new light.

A revolution is built with deeds, not with words. And if our people have learned anything, it is that words have meaning, have value, have something to say. When we speak of revolution, it is because we are making a revolution. And when we speak of freedom, it is because we are defending that freedom. And when we speak of democracy it is because we are building that democracy, stone by stone, from the foundations up. Empty words are finished in Nicaragua. Inconsequential words are finished in Nicaragua. And when the revolution uses the word people it is talking

about people of flesh and blood who with their sweat, their effort, their sacrifice, proud of their humility and conscious of their origin, have created this country's wealth, have tilled this country's soil. We are not speaking about people in the abstract. We are speaking of people who were humiliated, of people who were oppressed, who once and for all rose up and took up arms and are now in power.

And these are the people that you are now going to teach to read and write. And it is to return to them, the owners of this country, the fundamental right of knowing how to read and write, that the revolution is starting this new enterprise, which is a revolutionary enterprise, which is a Sandinist enterprise. If it were not revolutionary, if you did not believe that this is a Sandinist enterprise, that this war, like those which carried us to power, is a Sandinist war, none of you would have armed yourselves as you are now doing, with zeal, enthusiasm, revolutionary faith and Sandinist willingness to sacrifice.

Because you know this well, the people know it well, our enemies know it well, this is not just an innocuous campaign, this is not an abstract campaign, this is not an inconsequential campaign. This is a campaign to complete the burial of oppression and injustice. Because if our peasants and our illiterate workers previously endured oppression, injustice and humiliation and endured them for many centuries, they are now going to know with what letters those words are written and also with what other letters, with what other words are written justice, dignity, liberation and revolution. Those are the words of our primer. They cannot be any others because with those stones we are building the future. In place of selfishness we are going to write solidarity, in place of exploitation we are going to write justice, in place of oppression we are going to write liberation. And revolution, revolution as many times as is necessary, to make a revolution, to know the revolution, to transmit the revolution, because those who do not even want to hear mentioned the word revolution will have to do so for a long time. They have barely begun to hear it.

When Commander Bayardo Arce and I were traveling in Europe, we read there a magazine in which we, the government, were accused of having spent a large sum of money on correcting the primer which had already been printed and of starting our first page with the word Carlos. The story that we wasted money in correcting the primer is false. But that the primer starts out with the word Carlos is of course, true. And, what did they want? That we should teach our people the names of Adolfo Diaz and Emiliano Chamorro. No. The primer does not say that those who up to the last moment wanted to prevent the crumbling of the genocidal guard of Somoza were the ones who overthrew Somoza. The primer does not say that those who wanted up to the last moment to come to an agreement with the guard and save the system were the ones who put an end to dictatorship in this country. It does not say that the traitors, the lukewarm ones, who thought first of their businesses, were the ones who freed Nicaragua.

It says that it was the people in arms, that it was the popular uprising, that it was the Sandinist Front that waged war, that carried us to victory. And an apolitical primer, a primer without words such as people, struggle, liberation, revolution, Carlos Fonesca, Sandino, Sandinist Front, would be a primer whose purpose would be to continue to manipulate the people for ideological ends.

We are going to teach reading and writing in order to change. When we have completed the teaching of reading and writing neither our peasant brothers nor our worker brothers are going to be the same. All of us will be more revolutionary, more conscious, more determined to keep moving forward. And because it is a question of transforming ourselves from within, because it is a question of changing radically from inside ourselves, of leaving behind old bad habits, old selfishnesses--that is why this reader, this literacy campaign are not innocuous, are not in a vacuum, are not made up of empty words, of words without blood or color.

The campaign is the expression of the revolution which aspires to change everything; the primer is the expression of the most militant and conscious Sandinism that wants nothing other than to keep going forward and to get to the only place we must get to, the new Nicaragua, free and just, about which you are thinking even now, the new Nicaragua you have dreamt so much about and for which you now throw yourselves into this war.

You are going to war and we also remain at war. The revolution does not stop. We keep on talking about freedom; we are going to keep on talking about freedom, but also creating freedom. Not one which is put forward as a pretext but one which is exercised in defense of those who have nothing, that sacred freedom from starving to death, that sacred freedom of having work, of having a roof, of having health, that freedom of being able to go to school. That is the freedom the revolution is struggling for, just as it is fighting for a true democracy, in which all may participate, a democracy from below, from the depths, not simply a democracy of formulas, an electoral democracy, or a democracy of the ballot box. On the contrary, a democracy in which all of the people have confidence and know is theirs, because it is practiced in the neighborhoods, in the villages, in shops and in factories.

In this way we earn the right to the future, in this way we will earn the right to construct the new Nicaragua--advancing, building, teaching, participating.

You are now the example. We want to imitate you.

A free country or death!

Long live the Sandinist National Liberation Front!

Long live the People's Army of the Literacy Campaign!

Long live the workers' militia of the Literacy Campaign!

Long live the Red and Black sidewalk brigades!

Long live the people's literacy teachers of the CDS [Sandinist Defense Committee]!

9204

CSO: 3010

NICARAGUA

LABOR UNITY IMPORTANT TO REVOLUTION

Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 18 Apr 80 p 3

[Editorial reprinted from the weekly periodical PODER SANDINISTA, No 24:
"Labor Unity: Driving Force of the Revolution"]

[Text] "This will be the revolution of the workers, by
the workers and for the workers." (Carlos Fonseca)

Last Sunday an event of great significance to the consolidation and development of the Sandinist people's revolution took place--the first national meeting for unity of the workers' class.

This meeting focused on the key importance to the workers of advancing toward a single central trade union organization.

The filling of the multiple sports premises and the mass attendance by our vanguard, with four commanders of the revolution and three guerrilla commanders present, indicated how basic worker unity is to the strategic plans of the Sandinist National Liberation Front.

The division of the workers is only of interest to the sectors which want to weaken the revolution--the imperialists, the bourgeoisie willing to sell out the fatherland and, finally, those organizations which within the class defend interests alien or foreign to the profoundly social content of the Sandinist movement.

Unity of the workers' class, on the other hand, is the prerequisite for the defense and consolidation of the revolution. This unity also synthesizes the aspirations of the workers, for resolution of the economic, political and military problems becomes much more complicated with a divided workers' class.

Participation by the workers is a basic motive force for the process, for they are the historic subjects of this era. Organized participation in the reactivation assemblies and the production councils is the basic mechanism in the business field to guarantee this. Also, real participation in the various state bodies (CPC, etc) is an indication guaranteeing that the

measures implemented for society will be of this nature. Finally, enlistment in and strengthening of the Sandinist People's Militia is clear evidence that national sovereignty has a definite class nature.

But all of this will be accelerated with the establishment of a central trade union, one which will not be decreed but will result from the free will, the class awareness of all the workers.

The National Intersyndical Commission is an invaluable tool for achieving this, and the meeting held demonstrated and confirmed this fact. Parallel to this, an effort must be made to ensure the continuing discussion of this subject by all the workers, until a single central trade union organization, since we have a single social class, is achieved.

5157

CSO: 3010

CHRISTIANS' ROLE IN REVOLUTION: VARIOUS TOPICS

Imperialism Hindering Church

Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 17 Apr 80 p 3

[Article by Francisco de Paula Oliva, S. J., Central American Historical Institute: "Imperialism's Strategy Obstructs a Revolutionary Church"]

[Text] "This military aid must not be given to the Salvadoran government." These clear and incisive words by Msgr Romero, in his letter to President Carter, read in his homily on 17 February, served to detonate a chain reaction.

On the following day, the United States put pressure on the Vatican in order to get the latter, in turn, to put pressure on Msgr Romero and his advisors.

"I received a visit from the United States embassy here, in El Salvador," Msgr Romero told newsmen, "in order to explain to me that this aid was for the development of the people and that the 5 million in military aid were not properly speaking for the security forces but for implements needed by the army. They told me about a military unit which did not have any communications equipment."

And, who knows, perhaps the murder of the archbishop of San Salvador may have been the latest step in this rampant reaction.

Why all this?

Simply because, ever since that Rockefeller report in 1969, until today, the commitment of the Christians to the liberation of Latin America has increased a hundred times over. Along with Dom Helder Camara, who was almost alone at that time, now several scores of bishops are closing ranks.

The example of the guerilla fighter Camilo Torres has been repeated in various countries. And the timid desires of that small group of revolutionary Christians is today an avalanche that cannot be stopped

any longer and that characterizes the Church of the people all over Latin America. Imperialism is now considering that Church to be one of its main enemies.

In view of this situation, we must together with all of the revolutionaries think about what our creed or our degree of belief should really be like.

The first thing that strikes you is the tremendous revolutionary potential of the religious faith when it is committed to the liberation of the people. The case of Nicaragua is the best example of that. At least on the sociological level, this is a fact which must be accepted.

In second place, we find the nervous mobilization of imperialism in an effort not to lose what it considered one of the foundations of its power.

This mobilization is expressed in aid given to repress the revolutionary Christians, preventing their efforts from getting foreign money assistance, spreading the ideology to the effect that they are the agents of international communism and, in some cases, providing arms for professional assassins.

In this repressive action, imperialism has the internal support of those churches which, for reasons of social class, are on its side.

Considering everything we have said so far, the following question arises in our minds: What is better for the revolutionary process in our countries: a weak and anemic church or a flourishing church?

And we can only give the answer by making a distinction. If we are talking about a church which imperialism considers to be its supporter, then it would be better to have a church without strength. (Personally, I would add that this would be right because that Church would not be the church of Christ.)

But if you look at the Church of the people, whose children are spilling their blood and are committed to the fight and to the revolution, certainly also to the revolutionary process in Latin America, then we should have a flourishing and strong church.

And this is the point at which we revolutionary Christians are asking for support from our comrades who are not believers and who are also revolutionary. Right now we are the target of the attacks of international imperialism in an especially forceful manner and we need their help.

Christians Must Become Revolutionary

Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 19 Apr 80 p 3

[Text] "Christian love must become political and must opt for the historical undertaking of the popular classes"--Juan Hernandez Pico, S. J., Central American Historical Institute.

In the letter which revolutionary Christians addressed to the Nicaraguan people on 20 March, they stated something very serious: "The only way to love God, Whom we cannot see, is to try to help make sure that this Nicaraguan revolutionary process will progress in the most meaningful manner and at the same time in the most radical fashion possible. This is the only way we will be expressing our love to our brethren whom we do see. This is why we say that to be a Christian is to be a revolutionary."

Some Nicaraguan Christians thought that this statement was exaggerated. They perhaps think that it is the product of blind fanaticism; they believe that those who write this sort of thing have sold out to the revolution and are confusing adherence to the faith with adherence to the rather debatable political course. This is why it is important to have a dialogue and to try to explain this statement through which the Christian faith seeks to express itself today in Nicaragua.

It is obvious that religious faith in God, being faith in the God of Jesus Christ, must be implemented practically through love in the most effective way possible, love for the disadvantaged of history. A faith without love, a faith without concrete works producing life for the poor, is a dead faith, a cadaver.

This love becomes a true love through the concrete works of building life for the vast majorities whom capitalism is dooming to inhumanity.

Against this love one acts personally when one does not become interested in the good of the popular classes and when one places the interest of private enterprise above the well-being of the multitudes. One acts against this love also socially when one supports a system which perpetuates inequality among men throughout the world and in Nicaragua, which means hunger, sickness, and, to be quite frank, bullets for many; it also means abundance, good health and life for the few.

Christian love must become political and must support the historical undertaking of the popular classes. This seems to be the nucleus of the assertion which some people considered exaggerated. When love becomes political, the preferential option for the poor--which is a pastoral expression of faith in the God of Jesus Christ--turns out to be a concrete decision in the face of various political alternatives within a historical process full of conflict.

These things are understood better when one experiences them on his own body. During this Holy Week, there was a big opportunity in Nicaragua for understanding political Christian love. Family heads among the high bourgeoisie and the middle classes visited their children who are working with the teams in the rural districts of Nicaragua where they helped launch the literacy training drive. Some reactionaries tried to extricate their children from the miserable living conditions which they were seeing for the first time. Those living conditions caused them pain and they were frightened because now they saw their own children suffering.

Did they ever ask themselves whether the family heads among the peasants were ever pained by those living conditions under which their peasant children lived for generations? Did they identify with those peasant families whom they have now visited and who year after year had to go harvest the cotton or coffee or sugar cane on their estates in order to survive while they lived a life of ease in Managua as the fruit of the sweat of those peasants? Is it not true that being a Christian means being a revolutionary, in other words, it means contributing to transforming this so unfair and so inhuman society--which they did not want for their children--from the roots on up?

Thus, something which seemed to be an exaggeration to some people may be no more than an effort to make sure that here and today in Nicaragua, Christian love can be more effective in the political area.

5058

CSO: 3010

ORTEGA: MDN SHOWS FREEDOM EXISTS IN NATION

Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 20 Mar 80 pp 1, 9

[Article by Luis Hernandez B.]

[Text] Maj Daniel Ortega, a member of the National Reconstruction Government Junta, referring to the political meeting of the MDN, has said that this meeting was reliable proof that "freedom exists in our country as it has never existed and confirms compliance with the government program supported by the FSLN [Sandinist National Liberation Front]."

The revolutionary leader also asked that political manifestations of whatever ideology not harm the unitary structure of the revolution, since this contributes weapons to the more reactionary sectors which are at present on the offensive against our process, at home as well as abroad.

"We are the first to criticize the mistakes we make. We do not want a tamed people. If this were true, we would not bother to teach them to read," he added.

However, he said that starting with that need for self-criticism, it is one thing to maintain a self-critical spirit based on national unity, and another to use criticism which attacks the cohesion of the process.

He said that those who speak of freedom as if it did not exist here are those sectors which have made a minor sacrifice to the revolutionary process because of their economic conditions, which are much better than those of the workers and peasants.

"Those who are suffering, if we are to talk of freedom here, are the peasants, the illiterate of Nicaragua, who are beginning to achieve their freedom, first by learning to read and write, and then by finding work and enjoying greater benefits."

He added that it is necessary for all those Nicaraguans who with good intentions wish to criticize, to do so. "Nobody in this country must be afraid to criticize. But they must do it with a responsible criterion which does not attack national unity, because then we strengthen the American senators who are enemies of Nicaragua and who are blocking the \$75 million.

"We know that all this is observed by the senators, the enemies of Nicaragua, and they begin to manipulate it and say: 'Rather than aid Nicaragua, let us see how we can intervene there.' They are sure that they can still find a way to do that--a way to blockade us, intervene in our country or suffocate us economically.

"So it is a question of managing criticism with a national responsibility." In this regard he said that if in Nicaragua we say we want freedom it makes it seem as if there is no freedom here. If it is proclaimed that religious freedom is desired, this gives the world to understand that the church is persecuted here. This has its greatest repercussion when it is being said by people here, within the process.

He emphasized that those appraisals have no internal effect, "because the people are living their daily lives." He warned once more that criticism must be made with respect, without fueling international reaction. When he was urged to express an opinion about the speech given by Alfonso Robelo Callejas, Major Ortega warned: "It is not a question of individuals; it is a question of attitudes. It can be observed that even a revolutionary makes mistakes."

The Angry Ones

Concerning those who openly booed the FSLN [Sandinist National Liberation Front] flag last Sunday, Major Ortega said that within any political activity there are those who try to take advantage of the circumstances to provoke our revolution. After pointing out that he did not believe that this attitude was rooted in the MDN or in Mr Robelo, he said that it would not be surprising if they were elements whose property had been confiscated, since "many such elements were there." Nor would it be surprising if there had been Somozists there.

Asked whether dates had been set for holding municipal elections, he stated that those activities have not yet been set definitely because of the emergency which still prevails in the country.

Concerning the goals of the FSLN in its growing negotiations overseas to obtain funds, he said that the goal was to make the people's sacrifice less costly. "We know that our country's economy has been destroyed, and it is a question of restoring that economy, and for that reason there will be a period when there will be those who have full stomachs, economic resources and material means of subsistence, while there are also those who are hungry and have difficulties, including no place to sleep.

"Then, insofar as we are able to achieve greater international support, we will solve the problems of the people who have those difficulties, who are the vast majority of the Nicaraguan people."

Will Not Delete Phrases From FSLN Hymn

He emphasized that for that reason it was considered cruel, in violation of human rights and a great theater of torture to be observed by the world when a country which has the means debates whether it will give \$75 million to Nicaragua.

In an energetic tone he added: "The United States, which owes Nicaragua billions of dollars for the harm it has done to it, is debating whether to lend us \$75 million, a pittance. That also gives us the right to reject that loan.

"They are playing with our dignity. They are playing with the hunger of our people. It is like teasing a dog with a bone. They see us as dogs. That is how they see us, those senators who are blocking aid to Nicaragua.

"It is insulting; it provokes anti-imperialist attitudes. It justifies the words of our hymn, which says, 'Yankees, enemies of humanity.' We refer to those Yankees. Also we cannot remove that phrase from our hymn. There are those who have written in the newspapers that we should take that out. But there are some Yankees who are enemies of humanity. There are also Americans who are friends of the people."

IAPA Meeting

Referring to the IAPA meeting in Costa Rica, the revolutionary commander mentioned our country's isolation by the international press and the fact that the international press concerns itself only with those things which indicate deterioration of the image of our Nicaraguan revolution.

He said that this line is aimed at forming opinions which justify even further aggression of any kind against our country. "We already have economic aggression; we already have political aggression. But there is understanding on the part of the people and of many governments."

Regarding a report which according to dispatches was written by Pedro Joaquin Chamorro Barrios on the Nicaraguan press, the major said it did not reflect the actual conditions of our country regarding freedom of speech.

"The themes of freedom of the press must be addressed by the great media represented by the IAPA, and they must begin by waging an internal struggle so that the journalists who are part of their organizations are free to express themselves in those enterprises and do not have a political line imposed on them by the owners of the media."

At the conference he also touched on the results of his visit to Venezuela, Brazil, Panama, Jamaica, Grenada and Italy.

The meeting with the Caribbean leaders pointed up the urgency of unifying the forces of the small countries of the hemisphere to present a unified front against the threats and aggressions of imperialism. In Venezuela he talked with President Herrera Campins, who promised to supply 7,500 barrels of petroleum daily and to create a fund for paying it off within a 10-year period. He urged the Nicaraguan people to save energy, "since there is no such thing as a right to abuse energy sources."

In his conversations with the prime ministers of Grenada and Jamaica--Maurice Bishop and Michael Manley--they spoke of the treatment the underdeveloped countries are receiving in the bullish petroleum market, which they described as an economic attack on their people.

In Rome he invited Pope John Paul II to visit Nicaragua. "We told the pope that a visit by him to a small country, and not only to large countries, would be a good thing. The pope answered that he would look into the possibility of doing so."

They also reported to Pope John Paul II on the explosive situation of the Salvadoran people.

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CSO: 3010

NICARAGUA

ENABAS TO DEFEND WORKERS' INTERESTS

Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 20 Apr 80 p 3

[Article reprinted from the weekly periodical PODER SANDINISTA, No 24:
"Supply and Price Control: Defense of Real Wages"]

[Text] Benefiting or Harming the People

Rendering service to the working people and not the earning of sizable profits should be the main principle prevailing within trade activity in the stage of reconstruction.

To seek to return to the traditional models of the past, when free trade equaled greater profits and speculation, in which the big businessmen profited from the needs of the people, is a position which can never work toward benefiting either the consumers, the small businessmen, grocers and small suppliers.

Protests, the CDS [Sandinist Defense Committees] and the Consumer

It is the popular structures, the CDS, CST [Sandinist Workers Federation], the AMNLAE and the other bodies which should channel and direct the tasks pertaining to supply. It is here that we must participate actively, denouncing commercial monopolies, and correcting family hoarding, which has its origin in rumor and falsehood. We must take up vanguard positions for the defense of the working people and the social sectors suffering from shortages. Let us remember that exercising price control also means defense of real wages.

The prices for our domestic consumption products are subject to the variations of international market prices. In other words, if we export meats, fish and lobster, in addition to such traditional exports as coffee, cotton and sugar products, and if the prices of these goods vary because of price instability, this affects us within the country.

Through the structures it has established, the state exercises price control in the case of the supermarket. They are administered by the CORCOP, which

is a part of the people's ownership sector. Here we can state categorically that the price list is observed 100 percent. It is obvious that only a limited number of customers obtain their supplies from these commercial centers, since a large part of the population is too far from the supermarkets for access.

The location of the supermarkets has not at any time been an error of the revolution, but a heritage from the past regime. The trade bourgeoisie of the country located its commercial centers strategically. It put them where the consumers with the highest incomes could buy from them.

Thus it seems that the solution to the problem of supply would call for establishing supermarkets in various sectors of the city, and we would thereby resolve the ups and downs in the market. But this solution would cost us millions of cordobas and the present state of our economy does not allow us to think of a solution along this path.

ENABAS [National Staple Foods Enterprise] Role With Regard to Basic Grains

The above position is not the only one, and the efforts we are making to eliminate the ups and downs of the market are not limited to that sector of distribution either. The state, through the ENABAS, has gradually been achieving a certain order where the distribution of basic grains is concerned.

It is a fact that the criticisms made of the enterprise have never achieved the desired goal--to eliminate the errors. Therefore it is necessary to be clear about the source of the attack on the ENABAS.

It is the organization of large tradesmen, the Chamber of Commerce, which in cooperation with its affiliate the ACAPROBAMA is the source of the attacks and charges attempting to make the ENABAS and the state mainly responsible for speculation and supply shortages.

The main argument has been that there is no free trade. To argue whether there is or not is to accept the provocation. What we should make clear is what role trade should play in the revolutionary process.

The Small Merchants, Their Alliances and Interests

The services provided by the small merchants (grocers and retail suppliers) in distribution can neither be denied nor eliminated overnight.

But when we speak of tradesmen in general, we do not distinguish between the interests of this one or that, we make no distinctions and thus it seems that they are equal, that they have the same interests, that they are motivated by the same concerns and that the characteristics of all are the same.

A distinction must be made so that we will not err in practice. A small retailer differs from a wholesaler in the role he plays in distribution, in terms of his mobile capacity, his warehouses, his bank account and the volume of his monetary interests.

While the small tradesman, the grocer and the market stall owner, live in the same neighborhoods as the consumers, share the same local shortages, the same lack of services, the large tradesmen live in the residential neighborhoods and have all the privileges provided for them by their large profits.

It is obvious that the interests the one group defends in practice must contradict those of the other, and therefore when we speak of small tradesmen we should pay attention to who their allies are. Favoring price control is the position the current process we are experiencing requires. To achieve it all of us who want to control the ups and downs of the market must join efforts.

5157

CSO: 3010

VENEZUELA

INCREASE IN OIL PRICES NETS 10 BILLION BOLIVARS

Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 10 Apr 80 Sec 1 p 19

[Text] The estimated amount of additional revenue Venezuela will receive because of the petroleum price increases comes to 9.963 billion bolivars, reported the minister of energy and mines, Dr Humberto Calderon Berti.

The minister said that the estimated petroleum revenue for 1980 is 45.145 billion bolivars.

He also said that despite the uncertainty in the petroleum market, PETROVEN's [Venezuelan Petroleum Corporation] allocation will be kept at approximately 12 billion bolivars (11.508 billion, to be exact).

Calderon Berti gave an extensive report on the nation's oil policy and prospects to the finance committee of the Chamber of Deputies.

The minister of energy was accompanied to the session in the committee's meeting room by the deputy minister, Dr Ignacio Moreno Leon, and other top officials of the ministry.

In his opening remarks he recounted the events which took place in 1979 leading to the present situation of oil prices, which are so important in the government's revenue.

He stated that in the 1980 budget, which was passed last October, the estimated total revenues were 35.185 billion bolivars. Then there were price increases in November for residual fuels, in December for crudes, and on the first of January another increase in crude prices. Recently the price of residual fuels was reduced.

"The estimated statement indicates that the total revenues for 1980 will be 45.148 billion bolivars. That tells us that there will be additional revenue of nearly 10 billion bolivars."

He then pointed out that in the 1980 budget it was calculated that payments and earnings for PETROVEN would be 11.508 billion bolivars.

Calderon Berti then discussed the bases for this estimate. He said that petroleum production will be on the order of 2,222,000 barrels per day.

He explained that in the budget it was established that exports would be 1,902,000 barrels a day, and the expectation now is 1,895,000 barrels a day.

The average sales price at the time the budget was drawn up was \$18.42, while the present estimated statement is \$25.25.

The export value for tax purposes in the budget is \$20.20. In the estimated statement, this figure is set at \$25.25, the same as the sales price.

Referring to the fact that no changes were made in export prices, he said that that is due to the uncertainty about what may happen for the rest of the year.

He was asked about the two major questions facing us, and answered as follows. First, what will be the real level of production, and secondly, what will our price situation be?

We believe, he added, that we can have nearly 2,200,000 barrels of production, but to be on the safe side, to take care of any situation that might arise, we decided to leave the sales price of \$25.25 as an export value, so that we can take in around 10 billion bolivars for PETROVEN if these conditions are met.

The minister said that we should wait for "more time to pass and until the OPEC meeting is held in June, when there may be a new decision on prices."

"After June, when we are planning for the winter sales in 1980-1981, we will know what the true export value will be and the definitive situation of our oil revenue," he added.

Referring to the heading of technical assistance, he pointed out that PETROVEN in 1980 will pay 576 million bolivars for technology agreements, and the multinational oil companies will pay into the treasury 197 million bolivars, and will take back to their countries of origin 397 million bolivars.

"The net difference that the foreign companies will collect will be 417 million bolivars less than in 1979, declining from 796 million bolivars to 379 million bolivars," said Calderon Berti.

He pointed out that no tax system has been applied in this situation, but that with the new oil technology agreements the clause on earnings per barrel refined or produced using this technology has been eliminated.

Mr Calderon Berti is meeting today with the national leadership of Democratic Action to discuss the additional revenue that Venezuela will earn this year as a result of the increase in oil prices.

7679

CSO: 3010

VENEZUELA

HEAVY CRUDE 1983 REFINING RATE TO REACH 362,000 BPD

Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 2 Apr 80 Sec 1 p 12

[Text] Because of the change in refining standards, in 1983 Venezuela will refine 362,000 barrels per day of heavy crude, reported today the head of the hydrocarbons division of the ministry of energy and mines, Arevalo Guzman Reyes.

"This means that 239,000 barrels a day of heavy crude will be produced beyond what was produced in the 1976-1979 period," he pointed out.

He added that the production of light crudes will decline from 371,000 barrels a day in 1976-1979 to 345,000 barrels a day in 1983. Furthermore, medium crudes will also decrease from 496,000 barrels a day in 1976-1979 to 286,000 barrels a day in 1983.

For gasolines and naphthas, plans call for a production of 302,000 barrels a day in 1983, compared with the 189,000 barrels a day produced in 1976-1979.

He added that the domestic gasoline consumption estimated for 1983 is on the order of 240,000 barrels a day, while 170,000 barrels a day of gasoline are consumed now.

"The effect of the change in standards is to increase the processing of heavy crudes, that is, to include conversion processes in order to obtain the necessary production of gasoline without increasing the residual crude," he said.

"Unused heavy residues (residuals) may be converted into distillates and brought to catalyzing plants to produce gasolines or to desulfuring plants to obtain low sulfur fuels," he added.

Once the changes in standards are completed, it is expected that the high sulfur residuals will decrease from 180,000 barrels a day in 1976-1979 to 161,000 in 1983, and the low sulfur residuals will also decline from 385,000 barrels a day to 332,000 in 1983.

An investment of 8.8 billion bolívars is needed for the four refineries of Amuay, Cardon, E' Palito, and Puerto La Cruz.

Satisfying the growing demands of the domestic market, particularly for gasolines, making better use of heavy crudes, and a rational operation of all the nation's refineries are the fundamental objectives behind the changes in the nation's refining standards, he concluded.

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CSO: 3010

VENEZUELA

BRIEFS

OIL EXPLORATION ON MARGARITA ISLAND--Porlamar, 9 Apr--MARAVEN, a subsidiary of the Venezuelan Petroleum Corporation, is to begin exploratory operations south of Margarita Island, designed to complete a report on the hydrocarbon potential existing in the marine part of the eastern zone of Venezuela. This was reported by Dr Mauro Parra, manager of MARAVEN's offshore exploration program, in a talk he gave at the Hotel Margarita Concorde in this city. In this talk he said that MARAVEN has its Ocean Rover unit installed 13 minutes away from Margarita by helicopter flying time. He added that they are using this unit as a base for some exploratory work on the continental shelf in search of hydrocarbon deposits. Dr Mauro Parra, accompanied by other PETROVEN [Venezuelan Petroleum Corporation] executives, spoke to members of both the public and private sectors about the exploration that MARAVEN is beginning south of this island. He said that the Ocean Rover began to work in the Triste Gulf off the coasts of Falcon and Carabobo at the end of 1978. Three wells were drilled there with negative results, as no hydrocarbon deposits were found. He added that at the beginning of 1979 the Ocean Rover was transferred to the vicinity of Tortuga island, where two wells were drilled. Dr Parra said that at one of the drilling sites a new petroleum province on the Venezuelan continental shelf was found; this was Venezuela's first discovery of a light petroleum deposit (44 degrees API) offshore. Finally, MARAVEN's offshore explorations manager said that in the first few days of this month the Ocean Rover was stationed south of Margarita Island and will begin to drill the first of the wells scheduled for this work program. [Text] [Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 10 Apr 80 Sec 2 p 28] 7679

OIL INDUSTRY PERSONNEL NEEDS--Maracaibo, 8 Apr--The Venezuelan petroleum industry will need over 3,000 university-trained professionals for the years between 1980 and 1984. Of these, 700 should be petroleum engineers, with 2,233 in engineering and related fields. This was reported by Dr Hector Riquezes, director of PEQUIVEN, in a forum on human resources of the petroleum industry held as part of the university program of the petroleum school of the University of Zulia. The PEQUIVEN executive emphatically pointed out that the total requirements would in any case call for 3,174 university-trained professionals to maintain the present rates of production. This figure does not include the requirements of special programs that are being carried out and which may be begun, such as exploitation of the Orinoco Oil Belt and the change in refining standards. These programs will certainly increase the personnel needs of the petroleum industry, as they are expansion programs. In his report, Dr Riquezes gave a fairly full analysis of the personnel program of PETROVEN [Venezuelan Petroleum Corporation], its planning, the present makeup of its work force, recent jobs, and programming for recruitment for the coming years. This was a satisfying report, though the Petroleum School of Zulia is going through a serious crisis, to such an extent that the latest enrollment included only three students working for the degree of petroleum engineering. [Text] [Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 9 Apr 80 Sec 2 p 24] 7679

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